THRILL HUNTERS OF THE AIR LANES



YOU-CAN DEPEND ON CHAMPIONS



Under the strict surveillance of the A.A.A. Contest Board, 26 stock cars recently left Los Angeles for Yosemite National Park, 314.5 miles away. Every car was carefully prepared for, and every driver was intent on, one thing only—extracting the most miles per gallon out of every gallon of gas.

This was the third annual Gilmore-Yosemite Economy Run, a real test of engine efficiency and economy. The route is not conducive to good mileage, including as it does almost 100 miles of winding mountain highway and climbs reaching an elevation of over 6000 feet. The "stingy drivers", as they are known, furnished proof positive that engines equipped with Champion Spark Plugs get maximum miles per gallon when the Sweepstakes award and eight out of ten first places went to Champion-equipped cars.

For maximum economy in your car replace worn-out spark plugs with new Champions.

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In EVERY wet road emergency you need a tire that will turn the road under your car into a dry track. And now, thanks to the new Goodrich Safety Silvertown with Life-Saver Tread, you can have a road-drying tire that works like a whole battery of windshield wipers..., sweeps away the water right and left... gives you the safest, quickest stops on wet roads you've ever seen!

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higher in price."

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BOTH regular, and also the premiumpriced tires of America's six largest tire manufacturers were submitted to a series of exhaustive road tests by us, with the following result:

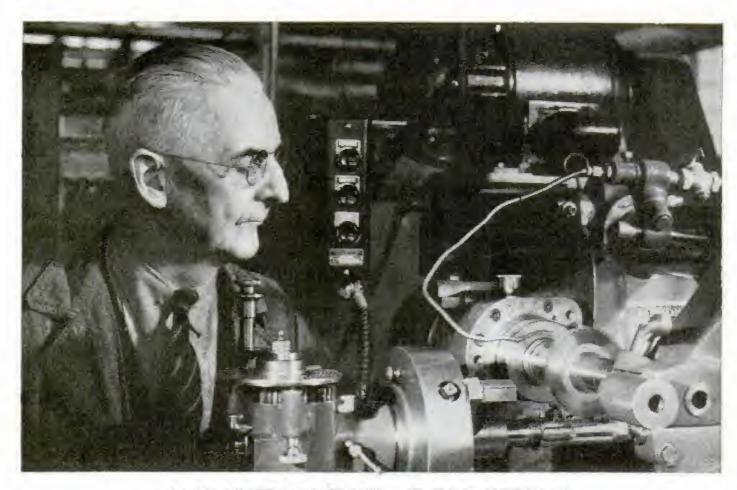
"NON-SKID—The new Goodrich Silvertown with the Life-Saver Tread gave greater skid resistance than any other tire tested, including those tires listed at from 40% to 70%

PITTSBURGH TESTING LABORATORY



The Goodrich SAFETY Silvertown

SKID PROTECTION OF LIFE-SAVER TREAD - GOLDEN PLY BLOW-OUT PROTECTION



AMERICA'S ANSWER

LL over the world, nations are A struggling to obtain a higher standard of living for their people. They are resorting to conquests, boycotts, experimental forms of government. But America has its own answer to this problem—a solution which has proved its worth. This American workman and millions of his associates, aided by the scientists and engineers of industry, are raising the living standards of all of us. They are doing it by constantly developing new and better products, and then learning to make them inexpensive so that millions of people can afford them.

For instance in 1927, when an electric refrigerator cost about \$350, approximately 375,000 were purchased. In 1937, a better refrigerator cost only

\$170. And because the cost had been cut in half, more than six times as many people bought them.

In the same ten years the cost of a typical electric washer has been reduced from \$142 to \$72, a console radio from \$125 to \$53, and a 60-watt MAZDA lamp from 30 to 15 cents. And these new lower-cost articles, typical of hundreds of manufactured products, perform better and cost less to operate than their predecessors.

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1938-OUR SIXTIETH YEAR OF ELECTRICAL PROGRESS-1938

Popular Mechanics Magazine

H. H. WINDSOR, Founder

H, H, WINDSOR, Jr., Editor and Publisher

July, 1938

Vol. 70, No. 1

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The Wonders of "Silent" Sound

JUST emerging from the laboratory is the brand new science of ultrasonics which deals with sound waves far above the limits of human audibility. And the most mystifying tricks of the world's greatest magicians seem simple indeed when compared with the miracles performed by men of science with "silent" sound produced by waves vibrating hundreds of thousands of times per second. With one kind of silent sound they can soft-boil an egg without raising the temperature. With another kind they can halt decay, and with a third they can kill bacteria which stubbornly resist age and heat and cold. With the aid of the waves, they can break down starch into dextrin, and speed up the maturing process of plant seeds. An article next month describes the peculiar properties of silent sound waves and indicates some of the commercial possibilities of this new science.

Next Month

A MERICA'S largest city next year will stage the world's biggest fair, a \$150,000,000 exposition three times as big and three times as costly as Chicago's famed Century of Progress. An article in the August issue describes the wonders of the New York World's Fair of 1939 and eight pages of beautiful Coloroto pictures illustrate the story.

Gardens Without Soil

IN a California greenhouse, a man grew tomato plants so tall he had to use a stepladder to pick the fruit. But it wasn't the size of the plants alone that fired the public's imagination. The plants were grown by water-culture methods—without soil. That led many to predict the end of the dirt farmer and to foresee "sky-scraper gardens" for city dwellers. But it isn't quite that simple as you'll find by reading "The Truth about Water Culture" next month.

Money from Bunny

THERE'S money in rabbits, about \$5,000,000 a year to be exact. People who used to raise rabbits as a back-yard hobby, to-day are reaping a nice profit from their efforts. The demand for rabbits is increasing, but don't start a rabbit "farm" until you know some of the tricks of the business. An article in the August issue tells you what to do—and what not to do, which is just as important.

Published monthly by POPULAR MECHANICS CO., 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago, U. S. A. Single copy in United States, 25 cents; \$2.50 a year, \$4.00 for two years, \$5.00 for three years in United States and possessions, Canada, Newfoundland, Labrador and countries of the Pan-American Postal Union including Spain. To all other countries add \$1.00 a year extra for overseas postage. Changes in address must be reported to us immediately to eliminate delay. Entered as Second Class Matter, Sept. 15, 1903, at the Post Office at Chicago, Illinois, under Act of March 3, 1879. Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office Department, Canada, Copyright 1938, by Popular Mechanics Co. in the United States, Australia and France.



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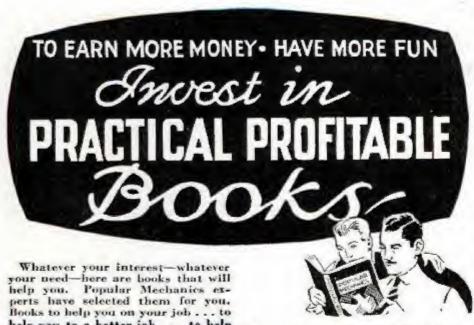
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Are you, too, up against life's big question— "How Can I Make More Money?"

Every bill to be paid, every need to be met, every dream still unfulfilled—demands the answer to this question. For on its answer hang all the other answers of life: how you live, what you wear, where you go, what you do, the position you hold, the one you hope to hold in future!...

MORE than anywhere else, this question haunts you daily on the job. You want a bigger salary; more pleasant and interesting work to do; more advantages for your loved ones—recreation, travel, social activities. And so, as you keep plodding on, in between the little thoughts comes this big one, again and again: "How can I make more money?"

Well, how can you?... By working harder than ever, so as to attract more attention to your industry? Thousands of people are working harder than ever, these days; employers have no worries on that score. By trying to "get a stand-in" with somebody of influence? Plenty of people have tried that, too—only to fall down because they couldn't deliver. By getting "outside work" to do? Sooner or later, your regular job suffers—and then what?

Out of the corner of your eye you can see a long line of folks just waiting for the job you have now. Any time you're "out," a dozen others are ready to step in. So it's dangerous to resign and look elsewhere, isn't it? Besides, jobs in your same line elsewhere are bound to pay about what you're earning now.

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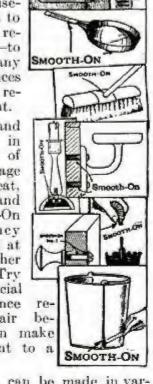
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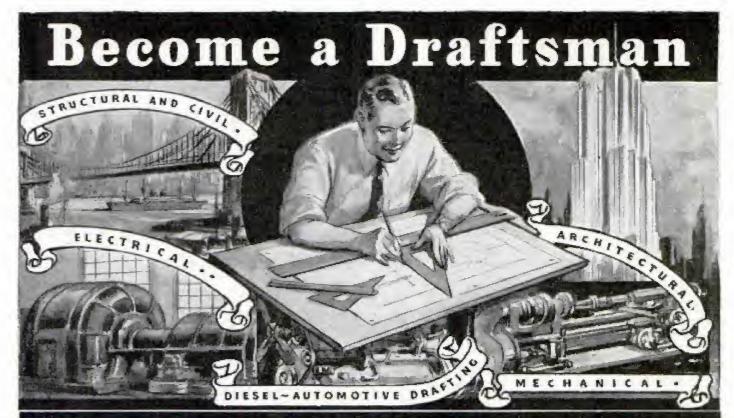
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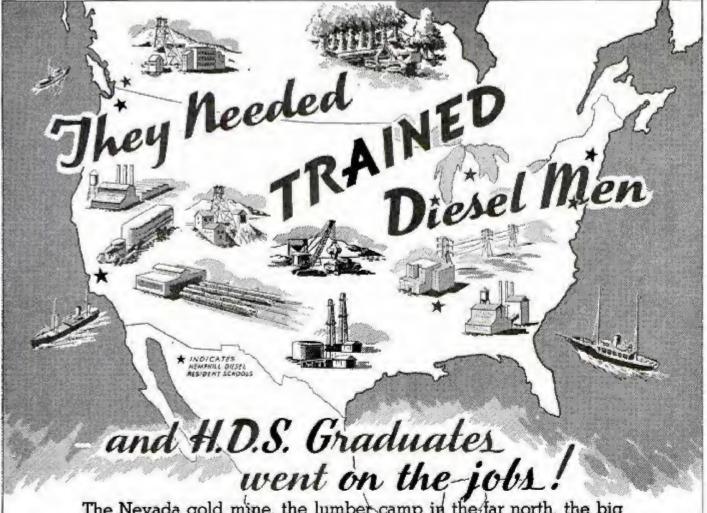
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MOTORISTS would find a newly patented map arrangement very useful



on long trips. The device consists of a circular flexible sheet which is attached to the steering wheel, within the rim and over the horn button. A map fastened to the sheet

provides easy access to road information so that the driver may follow a route by glancing at the map from time to time.

FOR observation of underwater life, a boat having a well into which persons

may descend has been patented. The well has windows through which marine animals, fish and plants may be observed. This arrangement would be useful at ocean



and fresh-water resorts, providing a new attraction for sightseers.

FOR the devotee of outdoor life, the fisherman, hunter and camper, a newly



patented camp stove solves the problem of how to prepare food easily. The stove is V-shaped, with a removable grillwork cover. The fire is contained in the bottom and cooking utensils are placed on the cover. Openings in the bottom permit discharge of ashes. Supports, which are thrust into the ground, hold the stove in the proper position.

THEFT of electric-light bulbs from their sockets may be prevented as the result

of a newly patented invention.
The device consists of a socket
with gripping
means operable by
a magnet to prevent rotation, and
a non-magnetic
casing surround-



ing the locking device and the socket to prevent access when a bulb is in place.

SCARRING of floors and of shoe heels is prevented by a quickly detachable



heel plate patented recently. The plate may be removed before entering the house. It protects heels of women's shoes from damage while driving the automobile. The

protective plate may be used with either rubber or leather heels.

GREATER comfort in the automobile or other automotive vehicle is the purpose of a cooling unit patented recently. It consists of a streamline housing adapted to be mounted on the roof of the car. The housing has two compartments, one con-

(Continued to page 25A)

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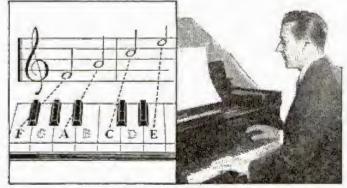
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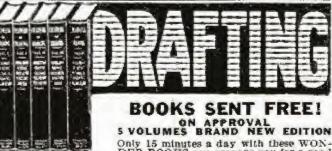
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A frank man to PATENTS-INVENTIONS

THE world of invention moves on. About a I hundred years ago people were saying, "There's nothing left to invent"-today we know that is one of the funniest things ever said. Just think what has happened in the last hundred years! Autos, radios, airplanes, and thousands of useful, practical devices for home, shop and office have been invented and put on the market. Inventors are constantly making the world a better place to live in. Did you see a notice in the paper that an obscure worker, Hans Wach, has invented a simple device to utilize exhaust steam on steam boats? Already, the report states, the steamship lines have saved more than \$15,000,000 in fuel bills with his invention. Almost in the same breath the Dept. of Commerce announced that it will soon test out a new, non-crashable aeroplane, which the average man can learn to fly in a day, which will travel at 110 miles an hour and sell at the price of a cheap automobile. An unknown Seattle man has invented a robot to go 5,000 feet under the sea and recover millions and millions of dollars worth of gold lying at the bottom of the ocean since the days of the early Spaniards.

Remember this: For every outstanding big invention there are thousands of small, simple things for use in the home, the office, the factory, on the farm, on every sort of travel conveyance. Little articles like you find on the counters of a 10-cent store, hardware store, drug store, toy and novelty shop.

Many Little Ideas Have Big Commercial Possibilities

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Who Are Inventors?

You'd be amazed at the men we contact in the course of a busy year. Most of them do not consider themselves inventors at all. During their work or leisure they get an idea. They work it out on paper. They get in touch with us about Protection. Did you know that a dentist invented the

that a dentist invented the stock ticker, a school teacher the telephone, a farmer the typewriter, an artist the telegraph? Did you know that the crinkly hair pin—sold by millions

now—came about because a husband saw his wife twisting the old-fashioned straight hair pin to make it stay in place? Poor men who have no thought of invention now will be financially wellfixed in a few years because of a happy thought that the world could use to advantage.

Can You Answer These Questions?

Ask yourself these questions: How do
the Patent Laws protect me? What
casy steps can I take, without cost, to
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belief that I am the first man to
think of my invention? Is a
Patent worth the cost? Do I

need a model? Should I try to sell my invention before I have it Patented? Is there any safe, business-like way to secure financial help? If I do apply for a Patent, how shall I reach people who

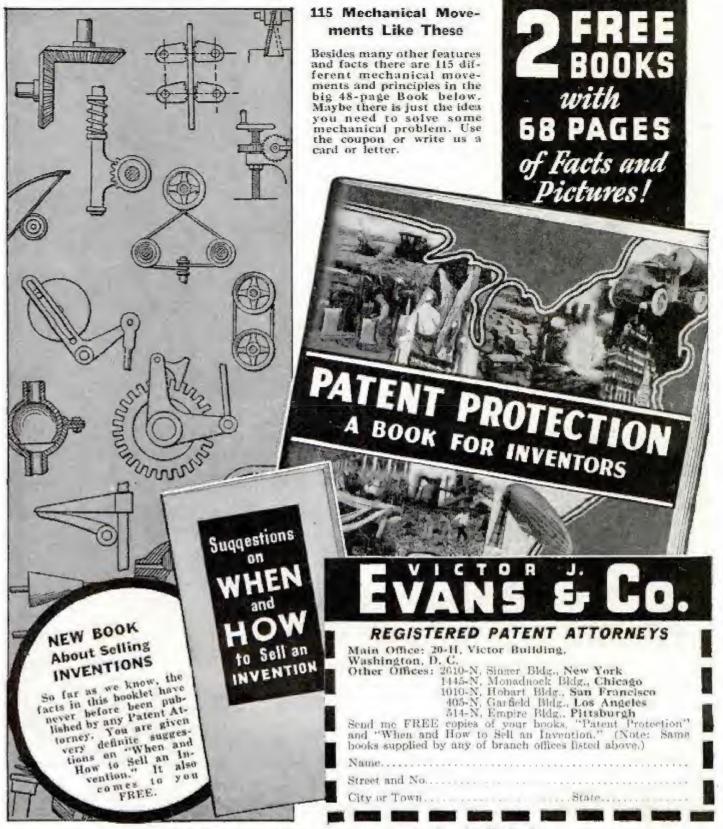
can market my invention? Can I protect and sell an improvement on some invention that has already been patented? These are but a few of the questions which usually confront the average man. You need the answers! YOU CAN HAVE THEM, without cost, trouble, or delay.

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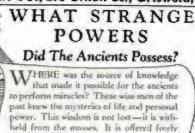
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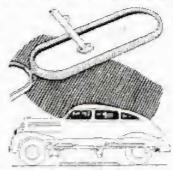
NEW INVENTIONS

(Continued from page 20A)

taining a condenser and the other a blower and an evaporator. Inlet and outlet ducts from the second compartment permit the unit to introduce cool air into the car and to remove warm air. Proper connections for operating the condenser and other mechanism run to the vehicle's engine.

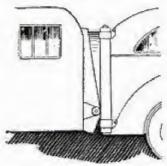
GREATER safety through quicker stopping is the objective of a combination

braking and antiskid device just patented. It provides for installation of plates, covered with resilient material like rubber, on the automobile or bus. These plates would



be lowered quickly to contact the pavement in emergencies, an electric motor controlling movement of the plates.

CONVENIENCE of entering the trailer directly from the automobile without

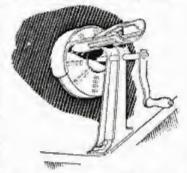


stepping to the ground is afforded by a newly patented coupling. A door in the trailer and another in the car, at their meeting ends, provide access. The coupling surrounds

and incloses the door openings and is constructed to facilitate turning corners and absorbing road shocks.

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with the cutter.
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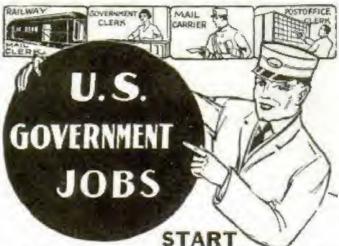
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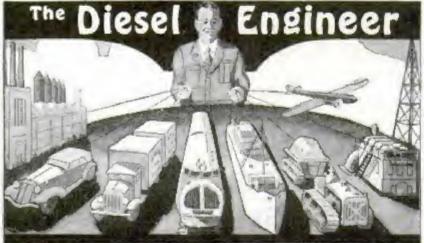
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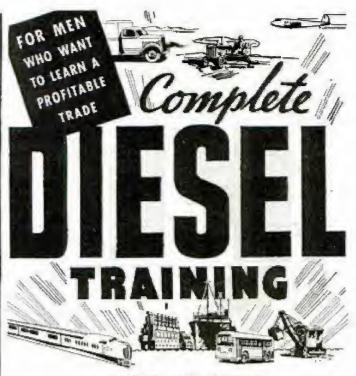
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DOLLAR Profit on dollar mail sale. Sales guaranteed. Stamp brings details. Adams. 85 Steelawanna, Lackawanna, N. Y.

FREE—New profitable money-making plan, build your own business with small capital, spare time, \$1.00 starts you making \$25.00. Pm. Kohn, 506 W. 45th St., Chicago.

TYPEWRITER Repairing taught on real machines. Earn while learning. Our instructors show you how. \$1 brings plan and first three lessons. School of Applied Mechanics, 1085-p White St., Far Rockaway, N. Y.

PROFIT With new products. Make, sell, analysis. Research. Guaranteed repeat. Analysis. Research. Guaranteed formulas. Biggest catalog free. Special prices, leads. Gibson Laboratory, Chemists, BD-1142 Sunnyside, Chicago,

OPERATE Electric Simonizing station.
Cash in on labor-saving invention. Only
\$29.50, Should net you approximately
\$300-\$400 month. Write Bissell's Manufacturing, 3320-P Archer, Chicago. Dealers wanted.

WORLD'S Fair preview, free. Employment opportunity; enclose stamp, Richards. 280 Broadway, New York.

CONVERT Newspapers into saleable products. Instructions, formulas, com-plete, \$1. Long. 818 Wyandotte, Kansas City, Mo.

DATA On South American employment. If you are interested in South American employment, If you are interested in South American employment remit \$1 in cash or money order for general information and list of foreign operating concerns. Capital Listing Service, Franklin P. O. Box 466, Washington, D. C.

MONEY In butterflies, moths, See Sin-clair Display Advertisement on page 16A,

PLASTEX Industries offers industrious men an opportunity to start a business of their own, manufacturing art goods, novelties, souvenirs, etc., in Plastex and marble imitation. Sc material makes \$1 articles. Rubber moulds furnished for speed production. Small investment brings big returns. You are just in time for big whole-sale season now starting. Write for interesting booklet mailed free. Plastex Industries, Dept. A, 1985 Washington Ave., New York.

TREASURE Finders? Read Goldak advertisement on page 130A.

RESPECTABLE Business, good profits, no investment, no selling. Plan complete, 55c. 227 Franklin St., Franklin, N. H.

START A business for \$1.00. Fast selling necessity that "sells on sight" to every business and professional man. 700% profit for salesmen. Copyrighted. Write today for particulars and prove to yourself how this new specialty will make you big money quick. M. J. Cook, Dept. B-1, Everson Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.

PROFITABLE Home mail business, fully equipped, \$2.95. (\$15.00 value). Enormous returns. Product details 25c. Thompson, Box 241, Duluth, Minn.

COLOR-GLAZED Concrete pottery.

Box 241, Duluth, Minn.

COLOR-GLAZED Concrete pottery, tiles, walls. Make glazed concrete lawn pottery without molds, power or costly tools. Cheap materials. Build own equipment from our plans. Giftware, statuary. Money-making business for men. Booklet, colorplate, details 10c. National Potteries, 13 West 26th, Minneapolis, Minn. HOW And where to obtain capital fully explained, free particulars. Star Service, Wapakoneta, Obio.

PROFITUNITIES In mail order, three months 25c (coin). Circular "Truth about Business Plans" included. Otanko, Box 114. East Akron, Ohio.

PROFITS And pleasure making abell

PROPITS And pleasure making shell jewelry, novelties—newest field! Stamp appreciated Challenge, A-11, St. Peters-burg, Florida.

"INCREASE Your Earnings." free budget of moneymaking opportuni-ties. Bernie Pyles, 1566 Jones Street, San Francisco, Calif.

UP To \$300 week being earned putting on movie shows in small towns, at lodge meetings, churches, schools, fairs, etc. Our new 16mm. sound-movie projector offers you big opportunity. Write Wenzel Co., 2599 So. State, Chicago.

Co., 2509 So. State, Chicago.

FREE Circulars describing hundreds of moneymaking opportunities by mail. Newest methods. Pleasant surprise. Write now. Progress Publishing Co., 2513A N. 9th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

HUGE Profits growing plants without soil. Produce flowers, fruits, vegetables anywhere year round with chemicals. Season's supply, directions, \$2.00. Formula, bibliography, \$1.00. Both \$2.50. Chemiculture, 4701 Sheridan, Chicago.

EARN \$25.00 Weekls working two hours.

EARN \$25.00 Weekly working two hours daily. No canvassing or manufacturing. Business Opportunities, St. Paul, Minn.

COLOR Concrete surface with chemical solutions. Beautiful pottery without moulds. Garden wishing-wells, Stucco rock, Glazing concrete, Sample 10c. Hollywood Cement Craft, 8527 Wonderland, Hollywood, California.

LiQUID Marble—anyone can maket Colorful, glazed! Moulded, brushed, sprayed. Rubberlastic moulds. Composition flooring. Big money in these! Particulars free. Marbleizing Service, Edwardsville, III. COLOR Concrete surface with chemical

107 WAYS To make money, in home or office, business of your own. Pull particulars free, Elite Co., 214 Grand St., New

AFTERNOONS Free for outdoors, shows. \$340 month home. Unique plans. No can-vassing. Prepare for surprise. Folio-F, Station D. Los Angeles.

ADDED Income ideas. Mail Sales News magazine, copy 10c. Katz, 4254 No. Kimball, Chicago.

DONUT, Potato chip, cheezed pop corn, ome made. Big profits: Vanderpol, Home made. Big Springfield, Ohio.

WE Start you in business, furnishing outfits and instructions, operating Specialty Candy Factory home. Men and women, earn \$25 up to \$60 weekly, all or spare time. (Our 29th year.) Booklet free. W. Hillyer Ragsdale, Inc., Drawer 4, East Orange, N. J.

SUCCEED With your products. Make-sell them. Formulas, Processes. Accurate analyses, Catalog free, B. Thaxly Co., Washington, D. C.

PROFITABLE Home business. Legiti-mate. No canvassing, Maywood Publish-ers, P-923 Broadway, New York.

SELL By mail. Books, novelties. Bargains! Big profits! Particulars free. B. Elfco. 438 N. Wells. Chicago.

PREE Booklet describes 107 plans for making \$20-\$100 weekly, in home or office, business of your own, Elite Co., 214 Grand St., New York.

I WANT To send you proof of the won-derful pulling power of Popular Mechanics Magazine's classified pages. What's your proposition? Write me today. F. W. John-son, Manager Classified Advertising, 200 E. Ontario St., Chicago, Ill. CHARTERS: Delaware; best, cheapest: free forms. Colonial Charter Co., Wilming-ton, Del.

CASH Every week clipping and preparing news items for publishers. Simple, fasci-nating work. Experience unnecessary. Stamp brings information. Division 55, National Press, 3923 W. Sixth, Los Angeles,

DELAWARE Charters: Complete service \$35. Submitted forms. Chas. G. Ouyer, Inc., Wilmington, Del.

ARTIFICIAL Marble sanitary flooring, instruction covering wood or coment flooring ½ inch thick, fireproof, all colors, low cost, ornamental casting, concrete, plaster, papier-mache, garden furniture, statuary, flexible molds, particulars free. Chris Mahler, Elmont, N. Y.

MAIL Order business is your opportunity. MAIL Order business is your opportunity.

Many began small, now earn thousands
yearly. No personal contact. Boundless
opportunities. Have had over 30 years experience; will help you succeed. Send 25c
for valuable booklets, none free. B. Breniser. 257 S. 21st, Philadelphia.

100 PROFITABLE Mail order and local
plans. Gilbert Supply, 1107 Broadway,
New York.

MONEYMAKING OPPORTUNITIES

YOUR Name 5,000 mailing lists 25c. Get samples, opportunities galore from all over world. Pines, 583-P Monroe, Brooklyn, N. Y.

MIRROR Silvering formula 35c, Worth \$5.00. Hobby Man, Jefferson, Iowa.

NU-SHINE. Startling new discovery, oneymaker. Formula 10c. Holgerson, Moneymaker. Canton, Kansas.

START A business of your own. 22 new business opportunities. Particulars free. W. Strauss, Owings. W. Va. START Mallorder business. Details free.

Pederson, 16091/2 East Fifth, Duluth, Minn.

YOU'LL Like resilvering mirrors, auto-parts, reflectors, making chipped glass signs. Write, Sprinkle, Plater, 287, Ma-rion, Indiana.

YOU Can be independent. Booklet on successful tested home and office busi-nesses free. No investments required. Lit-erary Sales, 168 Market, Hamilton, Canada.

"RESILVERING Mirrors" and 50 other moneymakers 10c. Ideal Service, 179-M, Park Ridge, Ill.

MAKE, Sell, men's washable ties, easy to make, sell. Materials cheap. Pattern, sales plan, tie, cut out, not sewed. 25c, pkg. needles. \$1.00 postpaid. Walter Journeay, Orange, Texas.

PIVE Dollars made daily with your own simply made cleaner for painted wood-work, varnish, linoleum, etc. Every home prospect. Formula, full directions, one dollar, Maryoclean, 736 West Main, Richdollar. Mar mond, Ind.

GROW Without soil—Flowers, vegeta-bles, plants. Year round, anywhere. Only water and common chemicals used. For-mula \$1.00. Bestovall, 4047-W North Whipple \$t., Chicago.

OPPORTUNITIES, Money making plans, profitable ideas, formula and trade secrets, choice selection, local or mailorder. Farm and Home Industries, 56 Seneca, Gardenville, N. Y.

FREE Details. Unique mail order op-portunity. Act quick! Donner Company, Box 396. Far Rockaway, N. Y.

EASY Money! Moneymaking opportuni-ties, many of them; anyone can work them spare or full time. Details free. Lewis Co., 828-A Carpenter, Oak Park, Ill.

FREE! Extraordinary opportunities! Mailorder and locally! Evers, Box 66PM, Elmhurst, N. Y.

MONEY Making plans! Over 1001 Free details. Rogers, Waverly, Va.

BRUSHLESS Falscteeth cleaner formu-la \$1.00, large sample 25c silver. Walsh, 248 Whittenton St., Taunton, Mass.

CHEMICAL Culture. Grow flowers and vegetables without soil. 2 sample outfits for \$1.00. Distributors make 200%. Little Planters Club, 4111 S. Broadway, Los An-

PEANUT Venders \$2.35 each. Metal Fixture Co., Lansing, Mich.

TURN Spare time into cash with typewriter! Addressing envelopes, mailing circulars, typing! Dime brings informa-tion, none free. Ace-PME, 322 Empire, Bitmingham, Ala.

\$40 WEEKLY At home making "Specialty Doughnuts," complete instructions 50c. Freeman, 118 Oak, Porterville, Calif.

ANALYSIS, Research, Newest guaranteed formulas, Biggest catalog free. Special prices, leads. Gibson Laboratory, Chemists, CS-1142 Sunnyside, Chicago.

MONEY In butterflies, moths. See Sinclair Display Advertisement on page 16A,

TREASURE Finders? Read Goldak advertisement on page 130A.

FREE! Send for booklet of special opportunity offers, if you are really looking for opportunities. Hughes Studio, Shill-insten Penne.

Ington, Penna.

"PROFITS," Stamping keychecks, Outfits furnished. Name-address on sample 25c. Bohn Co., Box 86-B, Wilkes-Barre, Penna.

MONEY Making propositions, practical and legitimate, Free particulars, Schembri, P.O. Box 1271, Detroit, Mich.

P.O. Box 1271, Detroit, Mich.

NOW Make money! A \$1.00 magazine (40th year), filled with schemes, tips, business opportunities, formulas, sent six months for only 30c. "Schemer Monthly," Alliance, Ohjo.

STOP Squealing—Start crowing! Work mornings home—country drives or movies—afterneons! No canvassing! Folio-A, Station "D," Los Angeles.

MILLIONS Jobiess! Get dollars in mail and the property of the property we fill your orders free. Stamp brings details, Coperative Service, 77 Swan, Buffalo, N. Y.

MAN In each town to plate auto parts.

MAN In each town to plate auto parts, reflectors, blcycles, fixtures, mirrors, by late method. Simple plan of manufacturing at home starts you in good paying business. Free particulars and proofs. Gunmetal Co., Avc. N. Decatur, Ill.

RAISE Earthworms for profit. Informa-flon free, stamp appreciated. Bureau Zoo-logical Research, 105A Broadway, Peoria, III.

III.

MOULDS, Guaranteed, for casting toy soldlers, Indians, trappers, warships, sinker moulds, 244 kinds. Send 5c for illustrateatalogue. Henry C. Schlercke, 645 Spencer, Ghent. N. Y.

167 PLANS For making \$20-\$100 weekly in home or office business of your own. Descriptive booklet free. Elite Co., 214 Grand St., New York.

WHOLESALE Sources, 560,000 articles. Free directory. Maywoode, 925 Broadway, New York.

FORMULAS, PLANS, ETC.

100 MONEYMAKING Formulas 25c. Descriptive literature free. Harvey Teeple, Decatur. Ind.

MAKE Spare hours profitable with tested formulas. 50c each, Dean Formula
Service, Box 101, Arlington, N. J.
GUARANTEED Formulas—New fast sellers, None better, Lowest prices, Catalog
free, Kemico, 49G, Park Ridge, Ill.
MANUFACTURE Technikem fast selling meghets. Immediately successful

wandfactoric recommen last self-ing products. Immediately successful. Very little equipment required. Enormous profits. 200 reliable formulas 50c. Tech-nikem Laboratories, 210 5th Ave., New York.

NEWEST Formulas, all lines. Catalog free. Hodge Lab., Elkhart, Ind.

TESTED Plantculture formulas for sand, water. New simple method. Instructions. Bulletin list. \$1. Self inexpensive mixtures. Plantculture. B601, Bryan. Texas.

INDUSTRIAL, Formula consultants, Alembic Laboratories, Chemists and Chem-ical Engineers, Box 1277, Chicago, Illinois

POLISH Out stains and scratches from furniture, good for all metal. Formula \$1.00. Box 101. Flint, Mich.

ICELESS Ice! Colder! Cleaner! Cheap-er! Instructions, 25c. Duffy, Covington,

FORMULA Book! Largest! Best! Send name-postal. Rokemko, Waverly, Va.

FOR 25c Or 3 for 50c we develop any formula desired. Here are a few: Veterinary remedies, vermin killers, cosmetics, dyes, etc. Abros Process Co., Box 733, Brockton, Mass.

MECHANICS Soap (1938) inexpensive, ormula 25c. Tom Moore, Chemist, Waterloo. Iowa.

110 EXCELLENT Formulas \$1. Mail-order, manufacturing. Acne Remedies, tonics, perfumes, etc. Interstate Labora-tories, 210 Fifth Ave., New York.

ANALYSIS. Research. Newest guaranteed formulas. Biggest catalog free. Special prices, leads. Gibson Laboratory, Chemists, BD-1142 Sunnyside, Chicago.

WATERLESS Soap guaranteed, clean dirtiest hands in America. Formula \$1. Jerome Jones, Hollins, Alabama.

FORMULAS: 15 Proven moneymaking formulas \$1.06. (Not stock-formula catalogue stuff), real unusual offers. List free, Marvel Laboratories, 6629 No. Maplewood, Chicaron. Chicago.

NO Service like this! Certified formilias based on guaranteed chemical analyses of today's most popular specialties! Stamp brings valuable information, Miller, 1705 Jetton, Tampa, Florida.

THAXLY Formulas for perfect products.
Accurate analysis assured. Resultful research. Catalog free. B. Thaxly Co.,
Washington. D. C.
FORMULAS. Latest money makers. Literature free. Belfort, 4042 N. Keeler, Chicago.

SILVERING Mirrors made easy and 460 other useful articles in Shop Notes, Vol. 28 -50 cents postpaid. Popular Mechanics Press, Room (C38), 200 E. Ontario St., Chicago.

CHEMISTRY

CHEMICAL Analysis and testing. Send stamped envelope for details. S & W Laboratory, 701 N. Hickory St., Joliet, Ill.

ANALYSIS. Research. Newest guaran-teed formulas. Biggest catalog free. Spe-cial prices, leads. Gibson Laboratory, Chemists. CT-1142 Sunnyside, Chicago.

CHEMICALS, Laboratory glassware, apparatus. Send 3c for catalog CPI. Biological Supply Company, 1176 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

CHEMISTRY, Biology, mineralogy sup-plies, microscopes, telescopes. Catalog free. Teeko, Evanston, Ill.

HANDBOOK For chemical experiment-irs, hundreds of experiments, illustrated, ide. Experiment booklet, 15c. Chemical attalogue, 10c. Reading Scientific Co., Reading Penns. catalogue, 10c. Reading, Penna.

FREE Chemistry catalog. Supplies at 5cl Equip complete laboratory. Send 3c for postage. Kemkit Scientific Corp., 397P Bridge St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

TECHNICAL Bulletin. Many subjects. List free. Popular Mechanics, 200 E. On-tario St., Chicago.

AGENTS WANTED

REPRESENTATIVE In each section to introduce greatest toy sensation of all times. Sells on sight. Large orders from variety stores. \$20 day easy. Agents proposition, instructions and prepaid sample 25c. Joy Toy Co., 1325 Stadium Ave., New York City.

COUNTY Agents wanted: "Snap-Up" keyless, electric, gasoline caps for automobiles. Exclusive county rights granted. Territory going rapidly. Write "Snap-Up," Box 830, Ashland, Kentucky.

200% PROFIT. Magic disc, needed every home. Amazing demonstration makes sales easy. Sample and plans 10c, Jaybe, Box 944. Altoona, Penna.

FAST Selling specialty, guaranteed prod-uct, large profits, great repeater. Exclu-sive territory. Details free. Nu-Way Prod-ucts Co., 3021/2E So. Front St., Mankato, Minn

SUBSTANTIAL Profits. Beautifully lighted house numbers. 3" black castiron, opal glass, switch, wire, Mazda bulbs, 10" x4" x114". Easy installation, Sample \$2.59 complete. George Kelly, 5958 Washington Chicago.

DU SONNE Now gives you perfumed enrrings. The year's biggest winner. Sam-ple pair 25c. Attractive proposition awaits you. Chaperone Products Company, 17 State Street, New York City.

NEW, Streamlined writing set. Not a fountain set. The pen that fills itself. Low cost necessity. Unlimited field. Big money now, Write Inkflo, Dept. B. Los

Make Good money trading new foun-tain pens for old discarded pens. Send old pen with 50 cents for sample and partic-ulars. Fountain Pen Exchange, Flagler,

SIX Razor blades free. Make big money weekly giving away razor blades. Exclusive territory. Write immediately. R. Trego, 228 First Ave., Phoenixville, Penna.

AGENTS: Smash go prices! Santes coffee 12c lb. 4-oz. vanilla 81%c. Razor blades 10 for 81%c. 100 sticks chewing gum 12c. Christmas cards. 21 in box 14c. 150 other bargains. Premiums. Experience unnecessary. Carnation Co., PO. St. Louis, Mo. AT Home, your own manufacturing business, making popular \$1 novelties. Cost you 3c to 15c. Everything supplied. Write So-Lo Works, Dept. G-842, Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW Kind of heat boils water instantly. Make to \$30 daily. Pocket size minute demonstration. No installation. Free of-fer, No investment. Write the Lux Co., Dept. B-207, Elkhart, Indiana.

450% PROFIT Quick-Action automatic gas lighter. No flint. 25c seller to every home, office and restaurant. Sample 10c. New Method Co., Box PMG-67, Bradford, Panna.

STARTLING Invention-Pocket adding machine. Nationally advertised \$2.50. Whirlwind seller. Big profits. Baby Calculator Co., Box 1118, Chicago.

NEW Sensation craze, the Photo Ring, is sweeping the country. Make sensational profits for Photo Ring salesmen. Monarch Distributing Co., Box 46, Anderson, Ind.

ENAMEL Protection pads 20c. Foley, 517 Cloverdale St., Seattle, Washington.

SENSATIONAL New sellers. Free catalogue, samples, Paty Company, Somerville, Mass.

SELL Pal metal polishing cloth. Fast 25c seller. Sample 10c. Albert Nahabit, 116 Sylvian. Central Falls, R. I.

MAKE Artificial flowers, 40 different flower patterns and materials to make six dollars worth. Sent prepaid \$2. Zanone, 308 Van Buren Street, Chicago.

ABLE Man to distribute samples, handle coffee route. Up to \$45 first week. Automobile given as bonus. Write Albert Mills, 6225 Monmouth, Cincinnati, Ohio.

YOU Can have a cedar closet in your home for \$2.50. Agents wanted, Churchill Cedar Co., Box 731, Kellogg, Idaho.

SELL Business cards \$1.00—1.000. Liberal commission, Castellazzo, 3717 Redwood, Oakland, Calif.

WANTED — District purchasing agents. No experience or money required. Write Purchasing Manager, 174 N. Halsted, Chicago.

BIG Profits. The perfect eyeglass cleaner. Prevents steaming. Sample 16 cents.
Shurberg Chemical, Hartford, Conn.
WHOLESALE Catalog, Razor blades,
boslery, soaps. Bulger, 147A Femberton.

hosiery, soaps. E Cambridge, Mass.

HELP Organize Little Coin Clubs. New, novel, profitable. Details 10c. James A. Ross, Balter Bldg., New Orleans.

HYATT 1033 New fast seiling deals, Sample 25c. Orahood Sales, West Mansfield, Ohio.

"HOLDIT" Rug coating. Prevents slip-ping, wrinkling, etc. Good opportunity. Sample and details, 25c (coin). Wildon Co., Metrepolitan Box 5032, Los Angeles, Calif.

RELIGIOUS Mottoes, sell fast at dime. Novelty Signs, Stryker, Ohio.

100% PROFIT. Millions need 25c eye-glass cleaner. Details free. Box 107, Seward, Nebr.

NEW Guaranteed electric dry shavers, reduced prices, easy payments. Reynolds, 5510 LeMoyne, Chicago.

AGENTS—Every auto owner wants new reversible sheep skin auto washing mitt. Big profit. No competition. Easy fast sales. Write quick. Be first in your territory. Blue Bounet, Gainesville, Texas.

OUTSTANDING Opportunity. Agents wanted for Self-Adjustable Arch Support (patents pending). New England states atready taken. Samples and details \$1.25 postpaid. Box 451, Leominster, Mass.

MONEY In butterflies, moths. See Sinclair Display Advertisement on page 16A.

SEPRA-PILE—New. Every factory, of-fice and home a prospect. Introductory, dozen \$1.00 prepaid. Brings nice profit. Single sample 20c currency. Labahn, Na-tional Specialties. Evanston, Illinois.

PROFIT With new products. Make, sell, peat. Analysis. Research. Guaranteed repeat. Analysis. Research. Quaranteed formulas. Biggest catalog free. Special prices, leads. Gibson Laboratory, Chem-ists, BD-1142 Sunnyside, Chicago.

SENSATIONAL Plan. Give free can of baking powder with each purchase. Write. Blako, 9459 Alstyne Ave., Elmhurst, New York

A BUSINESS Of your own, making Pal-mer's original chipped glass name plates, numbers, mirrors, signs. Illustrated lit-erature and sample free. E. Palmer, 512,

Wooster, Ohio.

400% PROPIT—The Perennic Calendar
640 years. Vest pocket size, 24 pages.
\$5,75 hundred. Sample 10c. Box 388, Bal-

AGENTS Sell water and oil painted por-traits. Large commission daily. New York Art Studio, Syracuse, N. Y., Elmwood Station, Dept. 3-A.

FREE! Mexican framed feathered pic-tures. 5½x8½ costs 49c, retails \$1.00. Sample 50c stamps, refunded first order. Marquez-P. Apartado 1176, Mexico City.

DO You want agents for your proposi-tion? Your ad in this space will place your message before hundreds of men seeking fast-selling products. My folder "How to Secure Agents," is filled with proof. I'll gladly send you a copy free. F. W. John-son, Manager Classified Advertising. Pop-ular Mechanics Magazine, 200 E. Ontario St. Chicago.

SELL Beautiful 1939 art calendars low as 100 for \$3.95. Every business buys. Or-ders being placed; start quick! Big com-missions daily. Write! New England Art Publishers, North Abington, 36, Mass.

AGENTS Make bigger profits on food products-bargain deals. Low wholesale prices. Big display case sent on trial. Ho-Ro-Co. 2810-R Dodler St., St. Louis,

BIG Money applying initials on automobiles. Write for particulars and free samples. American Letter Company, Dept. 40. Dunellen. New Jersey.

ATLAS Windown sign letters, Large sizes, penny each. Beautiful free samples. Atlas, 7941 Haisted, Chicago.

BIG Money applying initials on auto-mobiles. Easiest thing today. Free sam-ples. Also, sideline salesmen for name plates and tire cover transfers. "Ralco," 1305 Washington, Boston, Mass.

500% PROFIT! Gold and colored sign letters for windows, offices, trucks, signs. Auto monograms. Eastly applied by agent or customer. Neonite, Akron, Ohio.

BIG Money taking orders; shirts, ties, hosiery, underwear, raincoats, pants, uniforms, etc. Sales equipment free! Experience unnecessary. Write Nimrod, Dept. 8, 4922-28 Lincoln, Chicago.

GUARANTEED Gold leaf letters for store and office windows. 500% profit. Free samples. Metallic Co., 428-B N. Clark, Chicago.

MAN In each town to plate auto parts, reflectors, bicycles, fixtures, mirrors, by late method. Simple plan of manufacturing at home starts you in good paying business. Free particulars and proofs. Gunmetal Co., Ave. H. Decatur, Ill.

AGENTS—To mail our literature. Good profits. Home business. Maywood, 149 Fifth Ave., New York.

SUCCEED With your products. Makesell them. Formulas. Processes. Accurate
analyses. Catalog free. B. Thaxly Co.,
Washington, D. C.

AGENTS—Opportunity to make money;
book containing 107 successful business
plans; home or office; send for free introductory booklet. Elite Co., 214 Grand St.,
New York.

FPEF Semple Amazing algebras.

FREE Sample—Amazing cleaner; sells homes, taverns, everywhere. Big profit— fast repeater. Betco, 5007 Irving Park, Chicago.

AGENTS: Stamping names on pocket-key protectors. Sample check with your name, address, 25c. Stamping outûts. Emblem checks, check-fobs, name plates. Hart Mig. Co., 303 Degraw St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

MANUFACTURE Specialties, hire agents yourself. Big money. Free literature. Gilbert Supply, 1107-P Breadway, New York.

ENGRAVED Name plates, numbers, signs, etc., easily sold, profits large. Brett Bros., Winthrop, Mass.

HIGH-GRADE SALESMEN

CALLING All brush salesmen. Make 100% profit selling the newest Magnetic Electric Brush, attractive sponge rubber brushes and other rubber items. Housebrushes and other rubber items. Household chemicals, polishes, waxes, silver cloths, fly sprays, moth destroyers, kitchen aids, plus a wonderful complete line of quality brushes, mops, brooms, etc., tested and approved by Good Housekeeping Institute. All salesmen make 100% profit plus an immediate opportunity to become manager with a company established fifteen years. Write Advertising Department, Donald Brush Company, Camden, N. J.

Donald Brush Company, Camden, N. J.

SALESMEN—Sell business stationery, book matches, advertising gummed tape, advertising pencils, shelf moulding, labels, salesbooks, rubber stamps. Business cards \$1.50 thousand, \$35% comm. daily. Free deals. Sales portfolio free. David Lionel Press, \$12 So. Hamilton. Dept. J. Chicago.

SALESMEN Distributors, 200 items brushes mops. Marvelous Magnetic Brush excels vacuum cleaner. Big profits. Neway Brush Co.. Hartford, Conn.

SELL Starbrits signs, religious mattress.

SELL Starbrite signs, religious mottoes. Schaffner, 1336 W. Rush, Philadelphia,

SELL Nothing. \$95.00 weekly. \$500,000 punchboard firm announces new, no investment plan. Season starting. K&S. Dept. C127. 6227 Broadway. Chicago.

EXPERIENCED Salesmen. Home study courses of higher learning in law, arts and sciences, engineering, vocational. Highest commissions. McKinley Graduate College, Chicago.

BIG Commission selling celluloid pric-ing tickets, metal shelf moulding, menu covers, signs, celluloid buttons, cards. P. Pricing Tickets, 124 White Street, New York

York.

DID You make \$50 last week? Does your job offer you real future? If not, why not start a wholesale business of your own? Little or no capital needed. Handle line 260 nationally advertised 5c-10c products. Show merchants new plan for increasing sales and profits. Handle everything from your home at start. Chance to operate one of our Silver Flect service trucks. Pacts free. World's Products Co., Dept. 7810, Spencer, Ind.

If You are ambitious you can make good

IF You are ambitious you can make good money with a Rawleigh route. We help you get started. No capital or experience needed. Steady work for right man. Write Rawleigh's, Box G-2-PPM. Freeport,

JUST Out. New invention sells fast to service stations, garages. 4 casy sales daily makes \$75.00 weekly. Vernon Co., Newton, Iowa.

Newton, Iowa.

SELL America's most complete line of business necessities. Regular and novelty size book matches, gummed labels, political items, pricing sets, restaurant supplies, salesbooks, engraved like stationery, shipping room supplies, office supplies, printed gummed tape, advertising chewing gum, advertising pencils, thermometers, business stimulators. Complete line printed business forms and hundreds of other fast sellers. Business cards \$1.50 thousand. Stationery \$2.70 thousand. All competition undersold. Cash commissions advanced daily, extra bonus. Experience unnecessary. Complete sales outfit free. Federal, AL-301 South Desplaines, Chicago.

SALESMEN — Distributors. Unlimited

SALESMEN — Distributors. Unlimited money making opportunity selling the new. universally needed Sentry Stop-a-Draft (see page 879 June issue Popular Mechanics). No competitors. Every home, office, store, factory, hotel, hospital and building a prospect. Protected territory available on attractive, small deposit basis. Raysteel Specialties, Inc., Terminal Tower, Cleveland, Ohio.

MAKE Up to \$50.00 weekly part time selling top quality advertising book matches at low prices. Experience unnecessary. Full time profits unlimited. Free sales kit and zipper case. Match Corporation of America, Dept. E-7, 6041 West Grand, Chicago.

MAKE Up to \$1200 per month. Exceptionally high grade big money making opportunity. Write quick. Charles Kopp, Mansfield. Ohio.

SALESMEN—Sell calendars, complete line, all sizes, including jumbos; beautiful subjects. Samples free! Fleming Calendar Co., 6539 Cottage Grove, Chicago.

317% PROFIT Selling soilless plant grower. Sample 50c. Details free. Soilless Growers. 1570 South First, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

YOUNG Men! Here is your opportunity. Sell guaranteed tires wholesale. Large profits. Unlimited field. Details free. No experience or money necessary. Auto Tire Co., 4602-A So. Ashland. Chicago.

Co., 4602-A So. Ashland, Chicago.

BLADES, Factory prices. Free delivery. Ace Blades, Dept. 5-E, Rochester, N. Y.

"KWIK-N-EASY Bug Remover" dissolves insects and splashes on automobiles. Sales possibilities unlimited. Constant repeater. Sample 25c. Chemical Industries, San Francisco, Calif.

BEAUTIFUL Line advertising book matches: salesmen's catalogs. Sanderson's, Ottawa, Illinois.

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CIOARETTES 40 For 10c using guaranteed pocket device. Makes your own exclusive monogrammed brand. Free particulars. Berkeley, 1704 Stephen Street, Broeklyn, N. Y.

TOBACCO Users: Answer this ad-it means something for you. Bargain prices, generous trial sample 10c. Troutt Farms, D58PM, Hickory, Ky.

CIGARETTES—Roll 'em for 15c hundred. Samples both hand and machine rolling tobaccos 10c, Postal Tobacco, Box 1045. Owensboro, Kentucky.

FOR THE HOME

BUILD Your own power mower with Electromower Kit. Converts any standard lawnmower to a power operated, self pro-pelled unit. Details free. Electromower, pelled unit. De Channahon, Ill.

Changanon, In.

1001 WAYS to Use Concrete. Send for large free lilustrated folder describing new Popular Mechanics book covering every known use of concrete for the home, farm, building, business and industry. Popular Mechanics Press, Room (C38), 200 E. Ontact St. Chingge. tario St., Chicago.

RAZORS-BLADES-SHARPENING

ELECTRIC Shaver. Streamlined; powerful motor; \$15.00 performance; leather case; guaranteed. \$4.75 prepaid. Fleischman, 611 Madison, Chicago,

50 HIGH Quality blue steel razor blades 49c. Free with each 49c order, one rust-proof safety razor. Blades 90c 100. A. Goldstein, Jr., 2807 Allendale Rd., Baltimore, Md.

GILLETTE Razor with 50 blue blades, \$1.00. Postpaid anywhere. Relinco, Rochester, N. Y.

Rochester, N. Y.

SPECIAL 100 Finest quality "Double-edge" razor blades, one large tube shaving cream, one large tube tooth paste, one styptic pencil and one pocket comb, all for \$1.00 prepaid. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Delta Distributors, 832 Francisco St., Los Angeles.

RAZOR Blades last months with sharpening compound, 25c. G. Banks, Holliston, Mass.

10 GUARANTEED Double-edge razor blades and Goodrich sharpener, 25c. Master Distributors, P.O. Box 1223, Chicago.

SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS

GUARANTEED Factory rebuilt transits and levels for rent (with purchase option) or sale (cash or terms). Order now before prices advance. We will repair, trade in, or buy your old instruments. Ship prepaid for estimate and valuation. Write for List M-37 and complete information to Warren-Knight Co., 136 N, 12th St., Philadelphia, Penns. delphia, Penna

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

TRADERS Bulletin hundreds of trades ad bargains. Mack Brothers Exchange, and bargains. Mack Broth 2041 Chicago Ave., Chicago.

WANTED-MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: For exclusive national sales promotion or distribution: Any new 19c to \$1.00 retail articles novelties, household gadgets, stationery or office specialties. Send sample stating definite facts and terms of your proposition. A. H. Labahn, National Specialties, Evanston, Illinois.

NEED Money to promote mechanical in-ention. Ray Scott, Route 4, McAlester,

CASH For used microscopes, binoculars, cameras, slide rules, drawing sets, surveying, scientific instruments, mechanical and electrical hand tools. Highest prices paid day shipment received. Satisfaction guar-anteed or shipment promptly returned. Elman's, 2303 VanBuren, Chicago.

PERSONAL

FOOT Remedy guaranteed to stop offen-sive perspiration. \$1.00. Noxoder, Box 384, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

WIN Prize money: Booklet—"Successful Contesting"—shows how. 10c postpaid. Bulletin listing \$200,000.00 prizes included free! World Publishers, 4515-B Cottage Grove, Chicago.

ATHLETE'S Foot cured quickly, easily, permanently, \$1. Box 188-A, Station S. Los Angeles.

Los Angeles.

GUMS Bleed? Teeth infected? 10c for trial bottle "Gimp." Link, Emporia, Kas.

WALK Or stand much? Try Self-Adjustable Arch Support. Every user satisfied. Made to order. \$1.25 postpaid. Details free. Box 451, Leominster, Mass.

TREASURE Finders? Read Goldak advertisement on page 130A.

TOE Itch stopped one treatment, 10c for trial bottle "Oimp." Link, Emporia, Kansas.

INTERESTING

INTERESTING Success booklet free! Johnston, PM-257 North Washington, Tif-fin, Ohio.

WANTED, Original poems, songs, for immediate consideration. Send poems to Columbian Music Publishers, Ltd., Dept. 33, Toronto, Can.

STUTTERING And stammering corrected at home. Descriptive booklet free. Paul J. Wolfe, Box 52, Pittsburgh, Penna.

MISCELLANEOUS

FINE Large colored pen and luk drawing of your favorite portrait, scene, etc. \$2. Send clear photo; will return. Hanousek. 2542 - 42 Street, Long Island City, New York.

WANTED—An inventor with some prac-tical knowledge of slaughter houses to help us with a device for humane slaughtering. Box 94. Pikesville, Maryland.

BOOK Matches, complete, unused. 50 different for 50c. Excellent collector's item never before offered. Post Office Box 864, Rockford, Illinois.

ENGRAVED Metal name plates. Rust

proof. No polishing. Circular. Lock 1476, Washington, D. C.

BUSINESS Proposition resilvering rors, autoparts, reflectors, making chipped glass signs. Write Sprinkle, Plater, 283, Marion, Indiana.

SWAPPERS. Collectors, investigate free trading service. Exchange, Box 425, Detroit.

NEW-CITY—Help plan and build new, scientific, co-operative city, Pacific coast. Join national movement now organizing. Educational, inspiring. Booklet, 25c; folder, 3c. Terminal, Box 3043, Seattle, Wash.

QUALITY Painting and decorating. Floyd Weaver, Route 2, Rockford, Ill. MEXICAN Legal matters, American Attorney, Box 1736, El Paso, Texas. MINIATURE Bristle brushes for clean-

MINIATURE Bristle brushes for cleaning smoking pipes, electric razors, hundreds of practical uses. 10c per set. Busch Brush, 746 - 8th Avenue, New York City. FIREWORKS. Wholesale prices. Free catalogue. Leon Bresky, 161012 Hamilton, Houston, Texas.

"NITE-LITE" New luminous wonder paint. Brilliant, lasting. Ounce jars, violet \$1.00, green \$3.00. Luminart Co., Box 494-A. Hoboken, N. J.

COCONUTS Just as they fall from the palm. Wonderful souvenirs of the tropics. Postpaid 50c. Kyle's Curios, 213 Harvey Bldg., W. Palm Beach, Fla.

COATS-OF-ARMS And crests correctly rendered in colors or black and white. Highest grade. Estimates free. Heraldic Studios. 1914 Oakdale Ave. Chicago.

IP You have something to trade send ten cents to Dept. PM, Swapper's Guide, Delphos. Ohio.

SPECIAL Introductory offer. Regult 8" slide rule, only 30c prepaid. Labah National Specialties. Evanston. Illinois.

MONEY In butterflies, moths. See Sin-clair Display Advertisement on page 16A. TREASURE Finders? Read Goldak advertisement on page 130A.

FREE Typewriter. Outfit 25c. Details free. Associated, Southside, Oli City, Pennsylvania.

SWAPPER'S Friend, R4, Saline, Mich. hterests swappers, mall order, 50c year, sample 10c.

ARTISTIC Bird pictures, framed, hand-made with genuine feathers. Unequalled, besutiful ornament! Size 5½x8½, \$1.00 postpaid. Agents wanted. Marquez-GA, Apartado 1176. Mexico City.

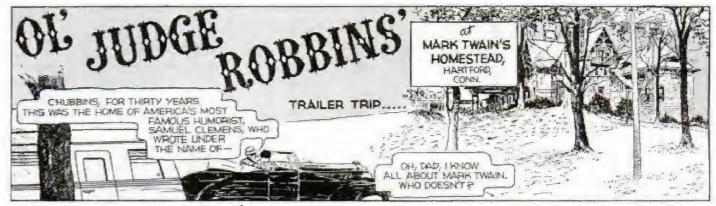
NATIONALLY Advertised electrical appliances, radios. Any make. Any model, 20% to 50% discount. Brennen Distributing Company, 228 Seeley St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

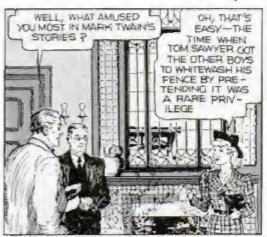
STANDARD Electric lamp insect killer. 2.00 up. Literature free. Sauer Bros. \$2.00 up. Literatur San Leandro, Calif.

WATERPROOF Leaky basement walls, floors. Inexpensive. F. Gerwin, Meeker. Oklahoma.

AMATEUR Tattooing outfits, illustrated catalog 6c. "Tatuco," 551A S. State, Chi-

MAKE It Yourself—Hundreds of practical and useful devices described in our big book. Plain instructions and illustrations show you how. Save money on things for yourself or make profit selling to others. 900 articles. 480 pages. 823 illustrations. \$3 postpaid. Popular Mechanics Press, Room (C33), 200 E. Ontario St., Chicago.

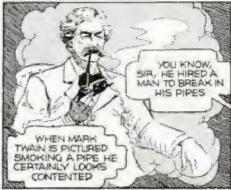
















PUT THAT P.A. CRIMP CUT TO WORK FOR YOU. SEE HOW MUCH BETTER IT PACKS, DRAWS—HOW MUCH COOLER IT SMOKES!



FATHER'S DAY JUNE 19th

Is dad a pipe-smoker? Here's the ideal gift for him—a pound or half-pound of extramild, extra-tasty Prince Albert, in a neat red tin. Will dad be mighty pleased with that? Just try it and see!

PERFECT SMOKES - OR NO PAY!

Smoke 20 fragrant pipefuls of Prince Albert. If you don't find it the mellowest, tastiest pipe tobacco you ever smoked, return the pocket tin with the rest of the tobacco in it to us at any time within a month from this date, and we will refund full purchase price, plus postage.

purchase price, plus postage.
(Signed) R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Winston-Salem, N. C.
ALSO FOR FASTER-ROLLED, NEATER "MAKIN'S" CIGARETTES.

50 pipefuls of fragrant tobacco in every 2-ounce tin of Prince Albert



Popular Mechanics Magazine

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

Vol. 70

JULY, 1938

No. 1



Left, large potatoes and pears produced by plant breeding

POPULAR MECHANICS

each generation are allowed to self-fertilize themselves, but in backcrossing the plants are crossed back with one of the original parent varieties so as to breed in more completely the qualities to be perpetuated.

"Suppose we wish to combine the high yield and quality of one variety of wheat with the disease-resisting qualities of another variety," Dr. Briggs explains. "We start out by crossing them. If there happen to be twenty-one different pairs of factors in the parents influencing color, adaptation, quality, yield, and so on, the type desired would occur only once in 4,398,046,511,104 individ-

what its yield will be, how it will mill, and where it will grow best. It will be unnecessary to grow several crops to prove its worth. This tailor-made wheat, built to exact specifications, is possible be--cause of a new development in plant breeding. Selection and hybridization, the two mainstays of plant breeders in the past, have led to many improvements in commercial crops but the trouble has been that these methods are of a hit-or-miss nature. The mixed characteristics of hybrid generations are so extensive that picking out the best plants is uncertain and sometimes impossible.

This uncertainty is avoided by backcrossing, an old but comparatively unknown method of plant breeding that has been developed into a recognized and reliable system by Dr. Fred N. Briggs, agronomist at the Davis agricultural experiment station of the University of California. In ordinary hybridizing, plants of

Top, samples of wheat, one infected with stem rust which prevents grains from maturing, and the other with rust-free stems. The poor sample was one of the healthy sample's parents. Bottom, spraying onions affected by wilt is necessary when disease resistance has not been built up by breeding

uals in the second generation. To grow such a population would require 50,000,000 acres of land and then we would have the impossible job of selecting from the acreage the one individual plant having the exact qualities we seek. In practice, that is impossible, so we select plants that ap-

slavio, Caly

POPULAR MECHANICS Syndicate

pear to be nearly what we are looking for.

"However, if each generation is bred back to the most desirable parent instead of being self-fertilized, the problem is far simpler. The desirable characteristics of the recurrent parent are preserved automatically and the factors desired from the other parent are maintained by selection. In the above cross the recurrent parent combination occurs 2,097,152 times more often than in the straight cross. After the fifth or sixth backcross the offspring may be considered identical with the recurrent parent except that the selected characteristic of the other parent has been adopted. That means, using the two varieties of wheat for example, that the hybrid will be identical with the parent that has high yield and quality and that it will have inherited the disease resistance of the other parent.

"Backcrossing does not necessarily speed up the creation of a new variety but it does permit predicting just what we are going to get. It is a means of changing one characteristic of a plant without affecting any of the others. In its field it takes the guesswork out of plant breeding. Ordinary hybridizing is still the approved way of experimenting with crops on which little work has been done, but with crops that have already been the subject of improvement, backcrossing is a means of combining into one variety desirable characteristics that may be selected from other varieties."

Already, many varieties of wheat and other grains have been improved by back-crossing. One interesting example is in barley. Atlas is the most important of all barleys grown in California but after threshing it is impossible to distinguish Atlas grains from the grains of two other varieties. A long-haired rachilla, a small appendage at the base of the kernel, is being transferred to Atlas to "trademark" that variety so that it can be recognized at a glance.

A good instance of how backcrossing, compares with ordinary crossing is found in a tomato-breeding program being conducted at the experiment station by Dr. D. R. Porter. The work was started in 1929, when the Marglobe tomato, an ideal 150-, gram shipping and canning variety, proved.

(Continued to page 139A)

Boards Make Better Shoes for Tramping in the Mud



Here is a different kind of board walk. The wooden shoes proved helpful in walking through mire

If snowshoes help you stay on top of a drift, why not boards for walking on the mud? A young member of a gypsy encampment in Kent, England, contrived a pair of board shoes and found they not only enabled him to walk on top of deep mud but kept his feet dry, too.

Cardboard Practice Golf Ball Shows Where Club Strikes

To sharpen the golfer's eye, a practice kit provides cardboard balls that show exactly where the club strikes. The golf club head is rubbed with a grease-marking crayon, which reg-



isters on the target ball and tells whether the golfer is topping or undercutting. This home practice set has a rubber tee, and the cardboard ball is mounted in a slot on a picture of another ball which gives a three-

dimension effect. Practice

Octopus Brought in Alive Weighs 200 Pounds

This octopus had a spread of seventeen feet from tip to tip and weighed 200 pounds when captured

Catching an octopus by hand and bringing it back alive is risky business if you don't know the octopus. An Oregon youth does, and makes a business of furnishing live octopodes to aquariums. By studying the deadly creature he has learned where to apply pressure to the body of the octopus to break its grip under water. The catch with which he is pictured here weighed more than 200 pounds and had spread of nearly seventeen feet from tip to tip of opposite tentacles.

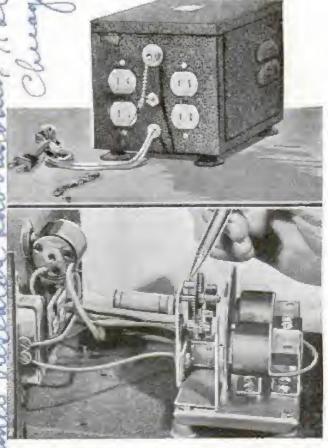
Five Tons of Silver Each Week Used in One Photo Factory

Second only to the United States mint in its consumption of silver, the Eastman Kodak plant at Rochester, N. Y., uses five tons of the metal every week. Back in 1885 the factory required just forty pounds a week for making the light-sensitive emulsion. Eighty per cent of the silver mined.

today comes from Mexico, Canada, Peru and the United States, but—except for that produced in Mexico—most of the new silver comes not from silver mines but as a by-product from lead, copper and zinc mines. Last year a record output of 276,-000,000 ounces was mined.

Adjustable Flasher for Signs Run by Reversible Motor

Operated by a small, reversible variablespeed induction motor, an adjustable flasher for display signs is on the market. The motor drives adjustable cams which break the circuits at the switch points. The compact flasher unit may be equipped with two, four, six or eight convenient outlet receptacles with switches for stopping the flashing when desired at the different outlets. The unit is handy for flashing lamp loads, for the primary side of neon sign transformers and for controlling magnet switches, amusement devices, warning signals or relays where heavy loads are to be handled. Easy to install and to adjust on the job, the unit has a convenient lever that permits instant speed adjustment.



Top, flasher unit. Bottom, mechanism and wiring of handy sign lamp control

Sharp Eye of Locomotive Is Precision-Ground

When railroading was young, the locomotive's eye was all but sightless. Trains ran mostly by day, anyway, and the headlight was no more than an oil lantern perched on the engine's nose for the Dame reason carriages carried lamps. It was not to see with, but to be seen. Today the eighty-milean-hour limited requires far-seeing fog-piercing





Top, a 700,000-candlepower eye looks ahead. Compare headlight of modern locomotive at right with lantern of old timer. Below, diagram of beam

etrating yellow-green beam which is less tiring to the engineer's eyes, is relatively

eye, its 700,000-candlepower beam lighting non-blinding to the approaching engineer the track distinctly a third of a mile ahead. Land in fog does not "kick back" against A 250-watt bulb furnishes the light, but it & the driver's eyes as ordinary white light is the lenslike reflector of silvered glass, does. The yellow light is obtained by behind the bulb, ground with astronomical making the reflector of glass containing a precision, that levels the rays into a sharp trace of uranium. After the glass form is pencil of light, making plainly visible at pressed and annealed, the back of the re-1,500 feet distance a dark object such as a flector is ground in a mathematically preman walking the track. The front of the cise parabola. Then silver is deposited on headlight is not a lens, merely a colorless the back, and over the silver a layer of glass shield curved enough to withstand copper is deposited electrolytically, then pressure. One of the latest headlights, two more coats of a protective asphaltused on the Reading railroad, emits a pen- base substance. Light which "spills" directly in front of the locomotive, without striking the yellow reflector, is white light.

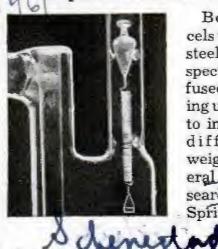
Conical Air-Raid Chamber Shelters Three Hundred



Berlin's air-raid refuge made of concrete. It has space for 300 persons

Closely resembling the shell for some giant war gun, a conical air-raid chamber has been erected in Berlin. It stands about the accelerator closes gradually as knee sixty feet high and has room for 300 persons. The chamber is made of concrete and is painted green. During air raids, it s can be sealed against gas. Its unique shape makes it a difficult target for enemy pilots

Glasslike Springs of Quartz Replace Steel in Weighing



Because it excels the best spring steel in some respects, glasslike fused quartz is being used as springs, to indicate minute differences in weight, in the Ger eral Electric research laboratory. Springs made of

hairlike filaments of quartz can be stretched to ten times or more their original length and will return exactly, compared to steel springs which would undergo a permanent stretching. Quartz has an extremely high melting point and quartz coils can be used at elevated temperatures, while steel springs lose their temper at relatively low temperatures. Quartz spirals are not affected by any degree of humidity, and are practically invulnerable, to the multitude of chemicals used in a laboratory, and quartz coils weigh far lessthan steel springs. In the laboratory the quartz springs usually are suspended within a glass tube which is maintained at the temperature desired by immersion in an oil bath. A small glass "boat" suspended from the coil holds the sample under investigation. As the sample varies in weight, so does the length of the quartz spring, and since the length of the spring is proportional to the weight, readings of length give accurate weight values. Measurements are made within an accuracy of a milligram, or 1/28,350 of an ounce. K 330

Knee Accelerator Frees Foot for Brake Operation

Greater safety is claimed to result from use of a knee-operated accelerator which leaves the foot free to control the brake Spedal. If the driver should become drowsy,



ow points to accelerator

Smoke-Eaters Ride Streamline Pumper 'Sedan'

It is a long way in safety, speed and power from the dashing three-horse fire engines of a generation ago to the streamline pumpers just added to the Chicago fire department. The driver, an officer and



connected to the powerful pumps beneath the cab; they can deliver 1,500 gallons of water a minute at 120 pounds pressure. As the driver leaps from his cab he throws a lever disconnecting the six-cylinder, 225-horsepower-motor from its drive shaft

Some Same

and a clutch at the pump outlet hooks the motor up to the pump. Gauges on both sides show pressure and volume of water going through the pumps. At the rear, in addition to hose storage, are compartments for axes, and an electric outlet.

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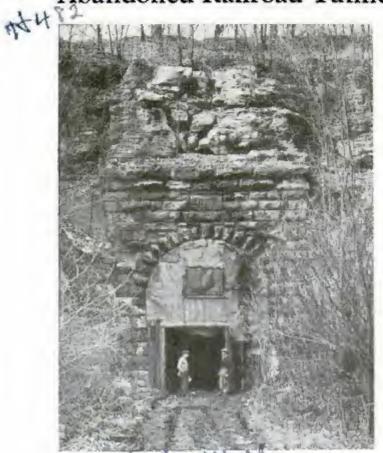
Five-Deck Streamline Boat on the Mississippi



Mississippi skippers of the Mark Twain era would be amazed at this new streamline style river boat of 1938

Far removed from traditional river boats of the early days is the streamline ferry just completed. The five-deck vessel carries passengers across the Mississippi.

Abandoned Railroad Tunnel Used for Mushroom Farm



Fifty-five-year-old tunnel through which Frisco railroad trains once passed is now a mushroom farm

Long since abandoned, an old railway tunnel near Kirkwood, Mo., is the site of a profitable mushroom farm. Henry Eisenreich happened upon the 475-foot bore once used by the Frisco line and saw the opportunity for raising mushrooms in its cool, moist darkness. Today Mr. Eisenreich, his wife and four children keep busy on the project and have developed one of the largest "farms" in the St. Louis area.

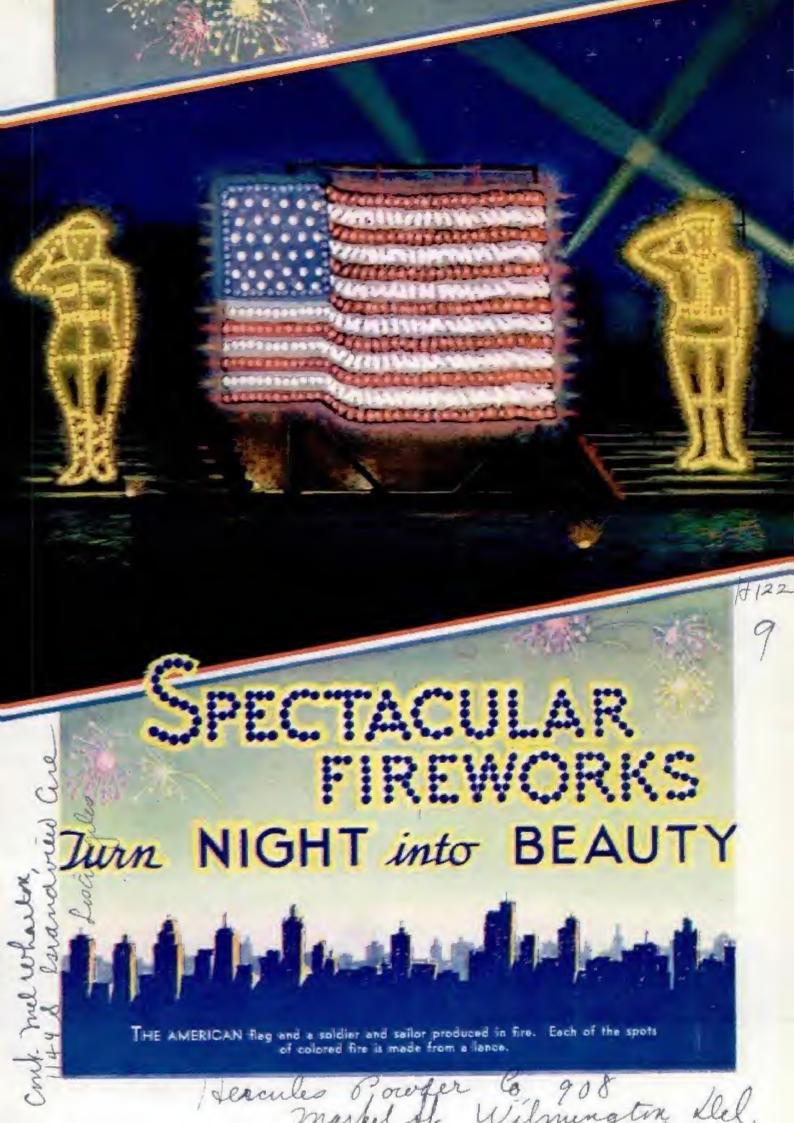
Collapsible Fishing-Line Drier Takes Little Space in Kit

Extending in two directions to form a square, a fishing-line rack accommodates 500 yards of line for drying. Rustless, it can be clamped on the side of the boat, and when

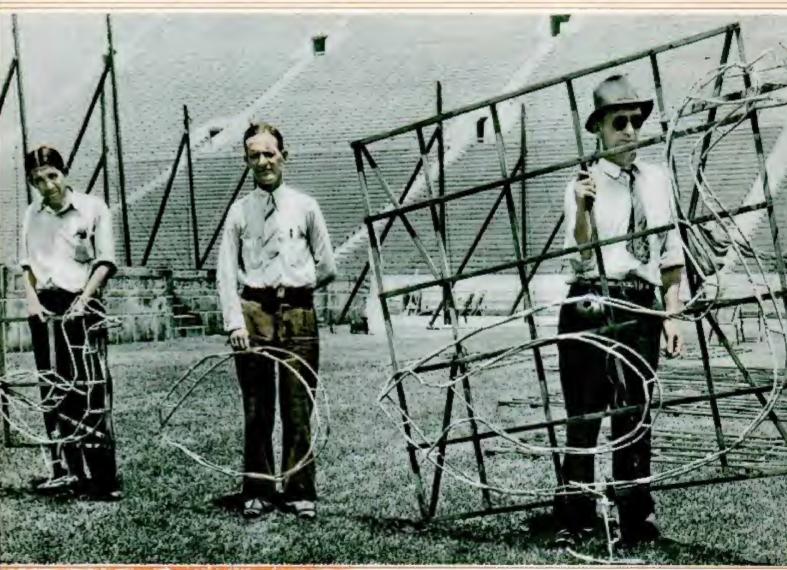


folded up it can be packed away in a very small space in the fishing kit.

Ed W. Dinner will



1122





THIS FIREWORKS set is always good for a laugh. It depicts a waddling goose which halts to lay an egg which in turn is hatched into a gosling.

HE American fireworks scene is changing.

The barefoot boy a few years ago lit fuses on the Fourth of July and exulted to the din of exploding firecrackers from dawn until late at night. Today fireworks fetes are being placed in the hands of civic, patriotic and fraternal groups where experts, skilled in the intricacies of decorative effects, stage and direct the marvels which constitute modern pyrotechnic wonders.

Meanwhile fireworks casualties decrease yearly, even though about \$15,-000,000 is spent for fireworks by the nation annually, and more people—the number is estimated at over 100,000,000—view pyrotechnic displays than ever before. Indeed it is difficult to find a

mature person who has not at some time sat enthralled at the colored trails of soaring rockets, the plumes of feathery fire scattered afar upon the heavens by bursting bombs and the luminous ingenuity of unique set pieces.

Although the Fourth of July is the big fireworks day in this country, there is not a month in the year when similar demonstrations are not easting their weird beauty upon the night air at conventions and other public and private celebrations. In the Southern states Christmas is an occasion for the popping of firecrackers, the spurting of pinwheels and general fireworks displays.

The pyrotechnic bomb is replacing the skyrocket at fireworks shows. A bomb bursts into a million harmless bits of paper, while rockets, with their long, heavy wooden guide-sticks, have been known to fall among crowds. Furthermore, bombs can be packed to create scores of colored fire patterns in the sky better than rockets and, in the hands of experts, are safer and easier to handle.

Display bombs are cylindrical-shaped packages of powder, fireballs and other pyrotechnic devices, wrapped in papier-mache. A long fuse, strapped to the side, connects with a propelling powder charge in the base for hurling the bomb, which may weigh as much as twenty pounds, high into the air from a mor-

Mortars are hollow steel pipes about two or three feet long, buried in the ground to lend direction to the flight of the projectiles. They are the cannon for the bombs. A row of sandbags usually is built



ing a wet string in powder and wrapping it in heavy paper. The fuses and lances are the secrets of fireworks set pieces.

BUILDING a set piece to reprerent an American flag. The quick fuse, known as a "match," leads to hundreds of lances which, burning in colored brilliance, set off the spectacle. This is a "six frame" piece.



ELEPHANT squirting a shower of fire over his keeper and, below, Roman candles are employed to depict this naval bombardment.

between the line of mortars and the operators. After igniting the fuse with a torch attached to the end of a long stick, the operator either runs a safe distance away, or crouches behind the sand barrier until the earth-shaking detonation.

Some bombs are hurled up 1,000 feet,

where they explode by means of a timing device actuated to the split-second nicety of an artillery shell. Whang! They burst, scattering their carefully set contents over the heavens, often covering as much as a full acre of aerial space! Bombs are packed for multiple "bursts" of two, three, four, five and



12 12 2



even six times, each explosion releasing new patterns of fiery glory. Pompons, weeping willows, star chains, colored drops and feather sprays are among the awe-inspiring luminous designs achieved

by pyrotechnic engineers.

Set pieces are made to order for occasions and are the only widely known branch of display fireworks that cannot be bought over the counter. The "behind-the-scenes" activity in set-piece preparation is one of the most interesting in the world of fireworks. It begins when the salesman and celebration manager put their heads together and select the kind and quantity of pieces they want.

The designs are then drawn, made into blueprints and built. One reason the public seems never to tire of set works is that no two are exactly the same, and they can be made to fit in with current events. Special creations are manufactured for the American Legion, lodges, and other conventions and events. Many are highly unique and ornate

THIS set piece combines motion in the flying windmill with the static figures of the two Dutch housewives.

14/22



THIS fireworks expert is showing how bomb fuses are touched off at fireworks exhibitions with the aid of a torch of fire held on the end of a stick.



and perhaps exemplify the greatest advance in exhibition pyrotechnics.

The patterns are placed on a framework and usually fused the day of the celebration, although the frames can be made up weeks prior, and even held over from one year to the next. The framing consists of standard sections five feet by ten feet in size, and, like billboard posters, any size can be built up from multiples. Wood, seldom metal, is used. Bamboo sometimes is employed because it combines lightness with good tensile strength. Props hold the sections upright and enable them to withstand wind pressures.

The design is fastened on the framework with strips of rattan. The fuses follow the outline of the picture, their purpose being to carry ignition to the lances—the heart of the pieces—and set them in action. Lances are cigarettelike sticks of fireworks compounds which, when lit, emit light or fire of different colors. They can be measured to last for a few seconds or longer than two minutes.

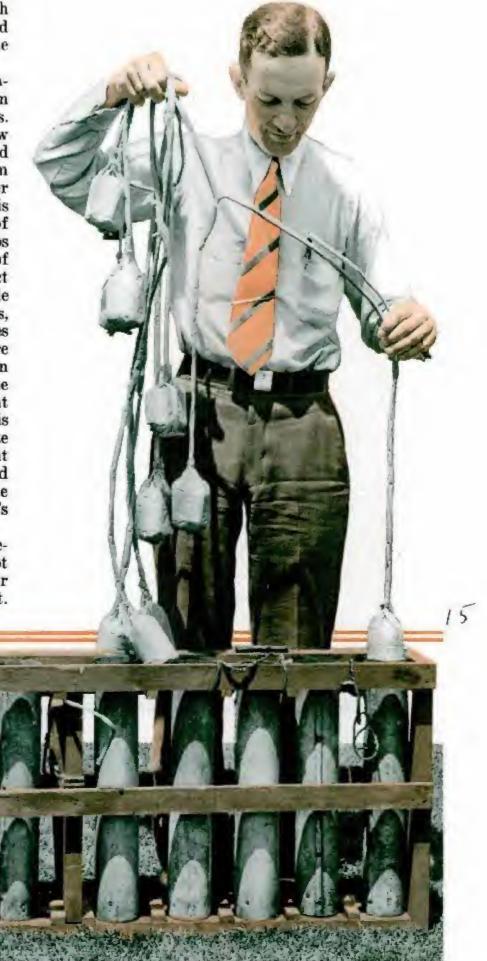
Amazingly intricate and beautiful decorations such as bouquets, flags, fountains, animals and comics are done in this manner. Strontium is often used for red color, barium for green, a sodium compound for yellow, copper compounds for blue, while magnesium is used for white light. Sometimes a background of colored fire is used to heighten an effect. This is done by touching off pads of ex-

K

celsior saturated with alcohol or coal oil and sprinkled with a chemical to give the wanted color—one of the tricks of the profession.

Shells from fireworks cannon are nothing more than fireballs from Roman candles. Candles and gerbes throw sprays of fire and are used to simulate fountains or an elephant squirting water from his trunk upon his A composition of keeper. flame material that drops heavily creates the illusion of Niagara Falls, a prize effect of pyrotechnicians. Bicycle riders, Zeppelins, airplanes, ships, sprinters, auto races and other moving pieces are often moved about by human operators hidden behind the brilliant barrage of front light. Mechanical power is sometimes used to operate sets where rapid movement such as high rotational speed or the steady motion of the pendulum of a grandfather's clock, is demanded.

The popularity of fireworks displays is due not only to their spectacular beauty but also to low cost.



BOTH candles and bombs are fired from mortars. The candles shown here are propelled from the mortars by three ounces of powder and, when set off, create showers of fire.



UNEXCELLED for beauty and magnificence are the aerial bombs which burst into dazzling colors after being hurled to great heights.

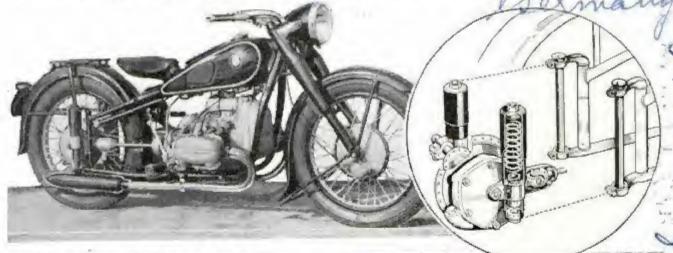
Probably no fireworks exhibition ever held in the United States cost more than \$10,000. No convention has yet spent that much. And the expenditure for the display at the opening of Golden Gate bridge over San Francisco Bay, a four-day celebration that has seldom been equaled anywhere, cost only \$7,000. The average is, of course, much less.

Actually fireworks are one of the oldest forms of amusement. The Chinese, it is thought, were the inventors and first exploiters. Their records antedate any others, for mandarins enjoyed pyrotechnics nearly 4,000 years ago. The Chinese gave romantic names to fireworks. They called rockets "arrows of flaming fire"; bombs were "heaven-shaking thunder," and they spoke of Roman candles as "lances of storming fire."

Even set pieces were old when Rome was new. Before the Christian era, during the reign of Emperor Augustus in 27 B.C., pyrotechnic designs were used, and their stage of development was so advanced that the real beginnings of set works must have been centuries previous. Even (Continued to page 128A)

9

Telescoping Spring Smooths Motorcycle Ride



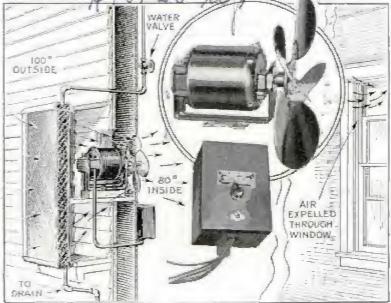
Above, German-built motorcycle with rear wheel suspension, which is also incorporated in front wheel fork. Right, phantom drawing and close-up of spring

Rear wheel suspension that operates like a telescope, absorbing every shock and jar of the road, is incorporated in a 1938 model motorcycle built in Germany. The same telescopic suspension is built into the front wheel fork. The "bike" can be driven at high speed regardless of the condition of the road, and has a two-cylinder thirtyhorsepower engine with top speed of more than eighty-seven miles an hour.

'Window Box' Evaporating Fan Cools Air in Dry Region

Installation of a "window box" evapo- ture as much as twenty to thirty-five de-

rating system for summer cooling in hot, grees. It operates on the simple principle dry areas can lower the indoor tempera- of the absorption of heat by evaporation of water. A vertical mat made of



Sectional drawing shows how air drawn into house by fan is cooled by first passing through moistened mat

excelsior or fiber two or three inches thick is placed outside a window, and water is allowed to flow downward through the mat while a fan draws a large volume of air through the moist mat and into the house. Another window, properly situated to provide cooling circulation through the entire house, is used as an outlet. Air delivery of the intake fan must provide a complete change of air in the house every two or three minutes. Efficient evaporative cooling systems of this type have been developed and are used to make homes and business places comfortable in western states.

of low \$7500 POPULAR MECHANICS

ree-Piece Boat Is Assembled While Afloat

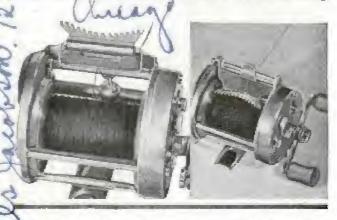


Top, two fishermen take separate sections and fish by themselves, then bring the boat together again. Below, the three-piece boat "nested" for transportation by auto or plane and affoat with outboard motor

Nesting so compactly you can load if into your automobile trunk, trailer or plane, a three-piece folding boat is assembled or dismantled in less than a minute. In fact it can be taken apart while in the water, each occupant taking a separate section, and then reassembled before rowing home. No flimsy craft, it is built of a Sto your reel with a screwdriver. Most loop hard composition board impervious to rot and water absorption, leakproof and able to withstand rough usage over bottom rock, gravel or coral without puncturing. Longitudinal oak strips reinforce the bottom. It seats three persons, and is equipped with folding oars, but also can be propelled by an outboard motor. If more than sixhorsepower propulsion is desired, flotation tanks which fit into the nested hull are attached for better stability. The boat is ten feet long and weighs ninety-eight pounds. Dismantled, it measures seventeen by thirty-five by forty-one inches.

H468 Automatic "Brake" Stops Snarls of Fishing Line on Reel

Sparled lines on the casting reel, not only time-wasting to the fisherman but a source of exasperation, are prevented by an automatic "brake" that can be attached



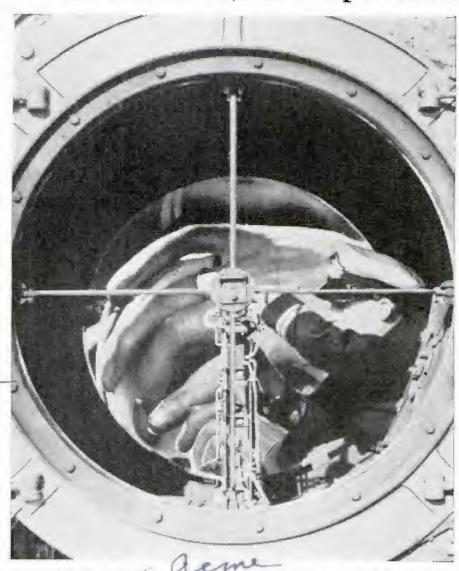
POPULAR MECHANICS

snarls are caused by the spool overrunning-the spool turns faster than the line can leave it. The toothed attachment prevents this by catching the snarl as it starts and stopping the spool instantly. When properly attached to the reel, the brake operates automatically. It does not interfere in any way with the free action of the spool and does not reduce casting distance

Rail 'Dreadnaught' Is Heavily Armed Fortress

Heavily armed for attack or defense, a "dreadnaught" railway car on the Tientsin-Pukow line in China was captured by Japanese troops. At each end of the mobile fortress was a revolving turret carrying big guns, and between them a company of soldiers, well shielded by a vaulted roof of thick steel, could man small arms and machine guns through sliding doors and slots in the wall.

Searchlight Lens Magnifies Hand to Giant Proportions



Unusual photo of giant searchlight shows greatly magnified hand of the officer testing the mechanism on board ship



Japanese troops inspecting armored car captured on Chinese railway. Notice heavy guns in turrets, and machine gun slots along side of "tank"

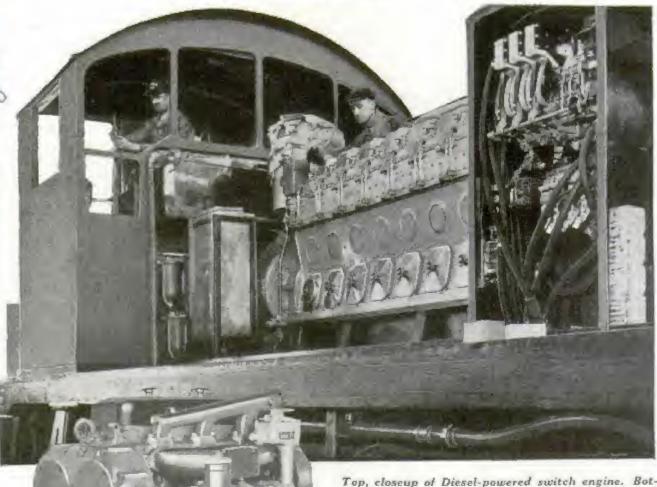
When a ship's officer recently was testing the searchlight aboard H.M.S. "Cornwall," a photographer snapped a picture that showed an unusual enlargement of the man's hand. Magnification was caused by the convex mirrors of the searchlight.

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FIRE UNDER



Top, closeup of Diesel-powered switch engine. Bottom, latest type of Diesel power plant, fully equipped

is also the working principle of matches. Or you can strike fire off flint or other stones, as with the old flintlock gun or the modern eigarette lighter. The automobile engine also uses sparks to start its fires.

You can start fires by compression also. This method apparently developed in the rainy tropics of Burma or Samoa. The native tool is a fire gun or syringe, really a primitive popgun. You take out the piston, put in a little punk or dry moss, push the piston in hard and you have a fire. That is because when you compress air quickly its temperature goes up. Get the temperature of the cylinder above the combustion point of the fuel and the fire begins. These fire guns are operated much like the Diesel engine, which compresses air quickly to an extremely high pressure, then injects a fuel. No carburetor is necessary,

Dr. Rudolph Diesel of Munich began by devising a coal-burning engine. He found that powdered coal thrown into the hot air of the compression chamber burned quite

total By Charles Morrow Wilson &

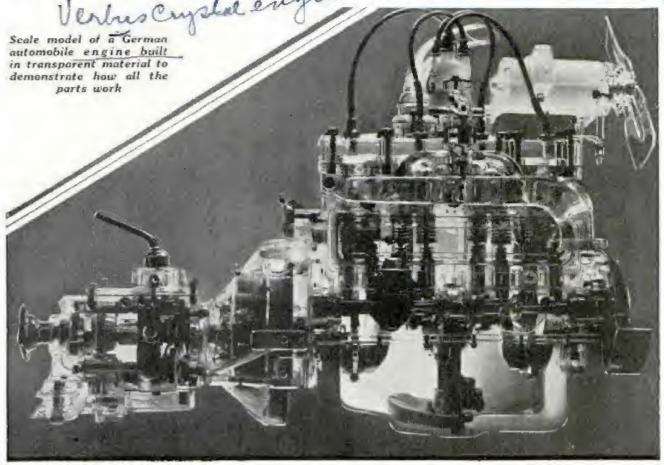
THE story of the compression engine is really a story of starting fires. When you drive an automobile or motorcycle you are starting another fire every three to six inches of the way.

In nature there are three principal ways of starting fires. The first is by friction. This is how the Boy Scout starts a fire when he rubs sticks of wood together. It research, beneval malor Carp

YOUR HOOD Berlin mater Made

Scale model of a German

water while an aire half



well. The trouble was that coal ashes are abrasive to cylinder walls. If we could ever develop an ashless coal, we may still find ourselves driving to work with a tray of coal in place of a tank of gasoline.

Diesel engines have opened up an entirely new field of power development. The first important issue with Diesel power is accurate timing of the fuel injection. When this is correct there is no real reason why a combustion engine couldn't be operated on a wide range of burnable materials. In fact you can imagine a day when a housewife may drive down to market and, finding herself stalled because her car has run out of fuel, she might just clip off a half-pound of butter, slap it in the fuel box, and drive home. Practically this is a long way from fact, as we now reckon fact. Just now we use crude-oil distillate in the Diesel merely because it is a cheap and convenient fuel. Some day we may hit upon other fuels which are still cheaper and more convenient.

The greater part of Diesel engineering has thus far been concerned with the injector, the device which puts fuel into the cylinders. Most Diesel patents relate to the shape of the combustion chambers inside the cylinders and to the injector.

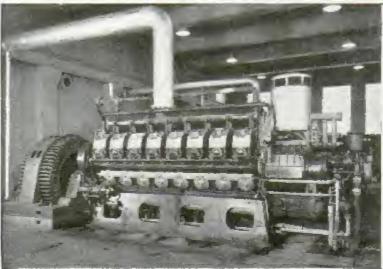
Dr. Diesel's own invention met with immediate success. But the engine's use of extremely high compression, four or more times that of the ordinary gasoline engine, required the use of strong heavy cylinder walls and parts which made the Diesel big and bulky. This made it a more or less standard stationary engine and a logical power for ships, since ship engines can be both big and heavy.

As the automobile industry came along and the spark-ignition gasoline engine developed, Diesel, as originally designed, was too heavy for light auto use. So engineers tried to make the Diesel over to match the gasoline engine. Now they are becoming reconciled to letting the Diesel be itself.

With this state of mind there now seems to be a first-rate chance that the Diesel will develop into a really important industry, one which will put a great many Reveland Meach engine a

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Top, Diesel engine assembly department in a General Motors plant, Bottom, sixteen-cylinder Diesel opergring a 1,000-kilowatt generator

more men to work and one which will expand our ideas of the uses of power far beyond anything we now know.

The Diesel is actually about as old as the gasoline engine and its reception was more instant. The first American Diesel was installed in a St. Louis powerhouse in 1898. While visiting the United States in 1912, Rudolph Diesel predicted that the Diesel engine would ultimately find its greatest usefulness here in America. Meanwhile his engine was already playing an important part in power-plant industries and shipping lines throughout west Europe. It made possible the submarine and other outstanding World War equipment.

Several American firms began manufacturing the larger-unit Diesels and American engineering talent has improved the equipment year after year. Our manufacturers have developed Diesel models for effective use in tractors, trucks and buses, as well as

in modern streamline trains. But the Diesel's place in the routine auto industry remained largely in the laboratories.

With the development of the sparkcombustion gasoline engine, the Diesel became a sort of scientific whipping boy. General Motors' entrance into the Diesel field was a by-product of experiments with motor fuels. For years engineers

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have been studying combustion and fuel burning in connection with motorcar ignition and "knocks." In this study of motor fuel it was found that whatever you do to make a gasoline engine run smoothly makes a Diesel engine run rough.

Tetraethyl lead was put in gasoline to slow down the combustion. But in a Diesel engine you want the fuel to start burning the instant the first molecule of fuel gets its head inside the cylinder. If you add something to slow down the burning you get a lot of fuel in before it starts to burn, and your Diesel knocks. So the next question was: "What can be done to make this engine independent of the character of the

The method of injecting fuel always has been one of the foremost Diesel problems. The underlying idea is to get the fuel into the cylinder in the finest possible state. From a standpoint of combustion the air injector has been satisfactory but it requires an extremely high pressure.

fuel?"

Normal injection pressures are from 4,000 to 5,000 pounds per square inch at the injector head. Engineers began by supposing that if one raises the poundage of pressure he can break up the fuel still finer and better control the rate of burning. They went as high as 25,000 and 30,000 pounds per square inch. Injectors for locomotive Diesels now run pressures of about 20,000 pounds.

It was found that efficiency goes up with compression pressures. The pressure necessary to ignite fuel in a Diesel cylinder chamber is around 650 pounds as compared with about 125 pounds for an ordinary gasoline engine. So, in any case, the working efficiency of a Diesel is higher than that of an ordinary gasoline engine. Also at retarded speeds the gasoline engine loses efficiency while the Diesel tends to increase efficiency.

Engineers figured that they couldn't get very far with Diesel improvement until they could make it about twice as efficient as a gasoline engine. But they still faced weight and design problems. Because of higher cylinder pressures the Diesel must be heavier than the ordinary gasoline engine. It also was plain that if the Diesel was to be of importance to the automobile industry, there must be a limit on weight.

(Continued to page 126A)

Popcorn Measured for Quality in Glass Column



Popcorn measuring device which shows quality based on popping characteristics

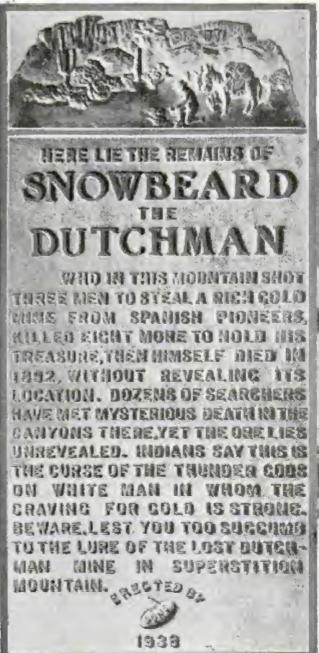
Standardization of popcorn may be made possible by a measuring device designed to show the quality of the kernels. It is a square glass column graded in pounds. For the corn to be graded as standard, one pound of kernels, after being popped, should fill the measure to scale twenty-five. Twenty-one is passable, while thirty-one means the corn is excellent.

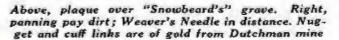
Paper Cups for Spraying Paint Are Discarded after Use

Less costly than cleaning the conventional metal can, a paper cup for paint spraying is discarded after use. It is made of three-ply paper with a metal bottom, and also can be used for storing paints and lacquers.



Death Guards Lost Gold of 'Dutchman' Mine





For nearly a century, violent and often mysterious death has guarded the hidden gold in Superstition Mountain. Once the rich vein in the mountain east of Phoenix, Ariz., was the property of a Spanish rancher in Sonora; he worked it for years until Indians raided his last big ore train and the United States acquired the territory in which the mine lay. Years afterward Jacob Walz, known as Snowbeard the Dutchman, murdered three of the Spaniard's heirs and stole the mine. For a decade or more he worked it alone, then re-



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vealed its secret site to his nephew, and finally murdered the nephew when he grew suspicious of him. A few Phoenix residents still remember the old Dutchman coming to town with a bag of nuggets, trekking back to Superstition Mountain a week later, alone. When men tried to follow him he slipped back and shot them. Eight men, in all, were killed in this manner. The three Spanish Mexicans and two others, Snowbeard hurled into a crevasse and heaped stones upon them—a private graveyard of which he often boasted. Dy-

ing, the Dutchman told two men and a woman of his mine and his murders; he gave Dick Holmes samples of the ore and directions to the mine, but Holmes never found it. Snowbeard had said it was "within half a mile of Weaver's Needle," the central, highest peak of Superstition Mountain, a wild, rugged wilderness ten miles by thirty. Since then the search has gone by, with frontier-day and modern methods, but death still guards the secret. Adolf Ruth of Washington acquired a map in Mexico in 1930 and went up to the mountain alone. He never returned. Six months later archaeologists accidentally found his skull; his murder was never solved. Bones of other men have been discovered. Two years ago 600 searchers hunted a lost prospector in vain; but after a blizzard he came out alone with a handful of gold found in a cave, a relic of Spanish days. A bronze tablet recalling the mysteries of the lost mine has just been erected over Snowbeard's grave on Superstition Mountain.

Four Tons of Marble Legs Carved for Franklin Statue



Marble legs of Benjamin Frunklin statue, weighing four tons, were brought by truck from Long Island studio to Philadelphia

It took fifteen workmen to move the crated marble limbs of the new Benjamin Franklin statue from the loading platform to Franklin Hall in Philadelphia recently. The legs alone weigh four tons. The heroic statue was brought from the Long Island studio of James Earle Fraser, the sculptor.

Stop-Motion Film Brings Traffic to Life in Miniature City



Moving miniature truck a finy fraction of an inch between "frames" of movie. Each vehicle is moved twenty-four times for each foot of film

Model cities can be made deceptively alive by the "stop-motion" process of filming. This method is used for realistic action, the tiny figures or vehicles being moved a fraction of an inch by hand after every "take" of the movie camera. In one film made for advertising purposes nine miniature trucks and buses were used, and each had to be moved twenty-four times for each foot of film. Since it takes one minute to show ninety feet of film, production of the oneminute scene involved 19,440 carefully calculated hand moves,

d hand moves.

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ROPE SPINNING





Top, two exponents of famed cowboy sport. Bottom, right way and wrong way of putting spoke through the honda. Other figures illustrate simplicity of starting loop about the body

TRICK roping, a cowboy pastime that is gaining favor as a sport, offers a pleasant blend of exercise and amusement.

There is no expense connected with this form of recreation nor are there seasonal limitations. The rope spinner may take his exercise to suit his convenience, indoors or out. Because it brings into play the trunk muscles as well as others, many men have taken up the sport as an aid to waistline control.

The fascination of the lariat is comparable to golf, tennis, or any major sport. Once a person acquaints himself with a few simple fundamentals he is anxious to learn all there is about roping, which is a life-time assignment, any veteran will tell you. The fundamentals are easily mastered, however.

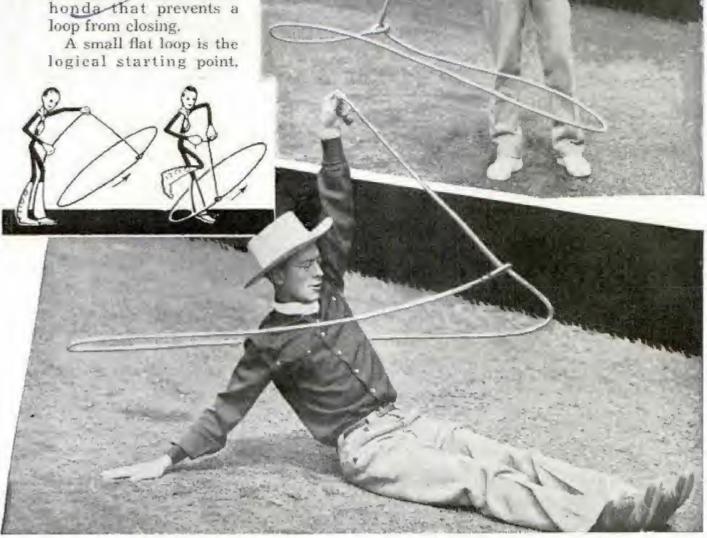
The correct type of lariat is important, according to Ray Berwick, professional roper who has entertained rodeo and vaudeville audiences all over the world. A rope no less than fifteen feet in length is recommended. Because it can be handled easily and does not kink readily, braided cotton sash cord, size No. 10, is preferred by the top-notchers. One end of the rope should be wired in such a way that it will not ravel and to the other should be attached a thin brass or aluminum eyelet with a groove, permitting the rope to be placed around it. This is called a honda and furnishes an opening of constant size

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through which the free end of the rope is threaded. If the metal eyelet is not used a honda can be made by bending back five inches of the rope and reenforcing it with copper wire or tape. After a time, the roper will add additional wire to the honda as the extra weight expedites the handling of a loop in some of the more subtle routines.

Rope spinners call the free end of the rope the spoke. It's the friction of the spoke against the honda that prevents a loop from closing.



Top, right, some of the more spectacular phases of trick roping. Left, figures showing how to step into loop. Bottom, there are hundreds of variations of simple routines, as expert demonstrates in this photograph

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POPULAR MECHANICS









Top, left, sense of rhythm is important in spinning small loops over free end of rope. Center, how rope should be held at start. Right, vertical loop requires a heavier handa than lateral loop. Bottom, demonstrating start of a lateral loop from the left side

stance with the body bent slightly forward and the feet apart. He explains the technique:

"With the right hand grasp the two ropes. The thumb should be over the free end and the index finger in between the loop and the free end so as to separate them. The closed palm is held in an upright position and the rope to your right. The fingers of the left hand, which hold the loop and the free end, should be relaxed so that the rope can be dropped quickly as the whirling starts.

"Here is how the loop is set in motion. With a sweeping motion toward the body turn your hand over. When your hand reaches a point directly in front of you, release the loop part and begin a circular motion with the spoke that has been retained in your right hand. This movement is done with the wrist, not by twisting the arm.

"The loop should be thrown from the hand in such a way that it starts twirling before it touches the ground. In order to keep the loop from striking the legs, hold it out from the body.

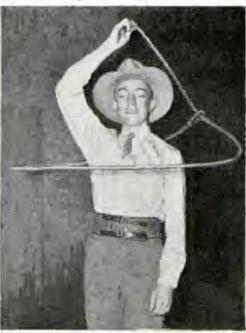
"The right hand makes a revolving forward motion and by speeding up the wrist and letting out on the rope, the loop is opened by centrifugal force and may be increased to any size the lariat spinner feels capable of handling.

Here the rope can be revolved to the left or to the right, the former being the more practical as there is less possibility of the rope kinking. The beginner can use his own judgment as to the size of his loop. It is best to start with a small one and enlarge it by degrees.

According to Ralph Clark, circus roper, the beginner should assume a natural

POPULAR MECHANICS





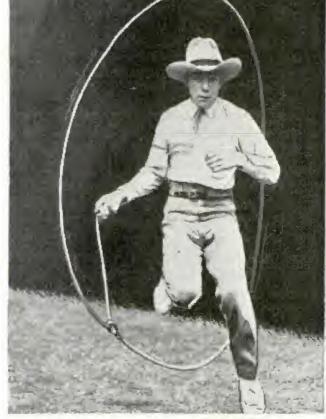


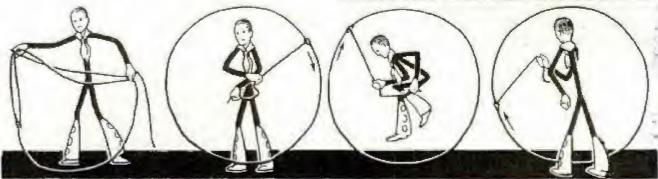
"While the loop is revolving the spoke should be turned in the fingers of the right hand. Likewise, the left hand should be kept busy unkinking the rest of the rope."

Naturally, a few false starts must be expected before the proper technique is mastered. Once you get a loop started, however, you will experience little difficulty in keeping it going. The secret of rope spinning is getting the proper rhythm into the loop. Once this has been learned, the lariat spinner is well on his way to success.

The backward loop is essentially the same as the forward one except that it is revolved to the right instead of the left. When this has been mastered the spoke should be transferred from the right hand to the left. A good roper is proficient with either hand.

When a beginner can control a loop approximately six feet in diameter he is ready to try a few of the more difficult (Continued to page 116A)





Top, left, rope spinning is lively exercise. Center, spinning rope around body. Right, while loop revolves, free end should be turned in the fingers. Center, jumping through vertical loop. Bottom, figures illustrate jumping through vertical loop

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Measuring Musical Tones with the Sound Stroboscope



Testing tone of a wood-wind instrument with chromatic stroboscope. Inset shows pattern of one of the lighted windows seen in unit at left

Sing or play to the chromatic stroboscope and it will show you, by a pattern in a lighted window, exactly how far you deviate from the true key. The instrument was developed as a means of measuring in a visual, foolproof way the intonation of wind instruments. The player might "fool" the tuning bar by his way of "lipping" the tone, but he cannot fool the stroboscope. Two units and a microphone form the complete instrument. One unit has twelve windows in the relative positions of the

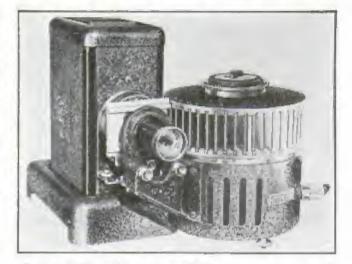
twelve white and black keys of the piano starting with C. Behind each window is a rotating disk imprinted with a pattern of seven rings of alternate light and dark segments. each ring progressing outward having twice the number of segments of the inner ring. The disks are lighted by a gas tube flashing in accordance with the pulsations of the sound reaching the microphone. When the number of light pulses per second equals the number of dark segments passing per second on one of the rings of a disk, that disk appears to stand still. If the same note is sounded an octave higher, the same pattern ap-

pears with twice the number of bars, for the frequency is doubled. If the pattern remains stationary, the tone sounded is correct; if the tone is sharp, the pattern moves to the right; if flat, it moves toward the left. To find exactly how sharp or flat the tone, the operator turns a knob on the second unit until the pattern stands still. A dial shows the degree of deviation from correct tuning. The instrument may be used in testing musical performance, tuning organs and pianos, and teaching.

Self-Changing Slide Projector Is Run by Remote Control

Any picture slide projector can be made to operate automatically by a self-feeder attachment now available. The rotary magazine holds forty-eight slides which can be arranged in proper sequence; the attachment is then connected to the regular projector and the viewing time regulared by a switch for rapid or slow change, or remote control. Change from one slide to the next takes three seconds. When remote control is used the operator changes the view by pressing a switch.

(Send return postage to our Bureau of Information to learn the name of the maker of any device described in this magazine.



Forty-eight slides arranged in proper sequence in rotary magazine are fed automatically so projector

H 443 POPULAR MECHANICS City mo

Camera Dolly Rides the Rails to 'Shoot' Train

Ordinarily a camera dolly is a lowwheeled truck that carries the camera and crew along with the action. But an ordi-



nary dolly wouldn't do for one scene recently, when the script called for a movie of a string of railway flat cars carrying a shipment of new automobiles. A stranded orchestra was to discover the cars, climb aboard and ride to town in style. Several dollies were tried, but they were unsatisfactory and finally the director ordered a special camera truck fitted with railroad car wheels and the scene was "shot" from an adjoining parallel track.



Film director's problem was to grind out scene of stranded orchestra "hitching" ride in shipment of new automobiles on passing freight. It was solved by fitting camera dolly with railway car wheels and shooting while dolly traveled on adjoining track, as shown above and at left

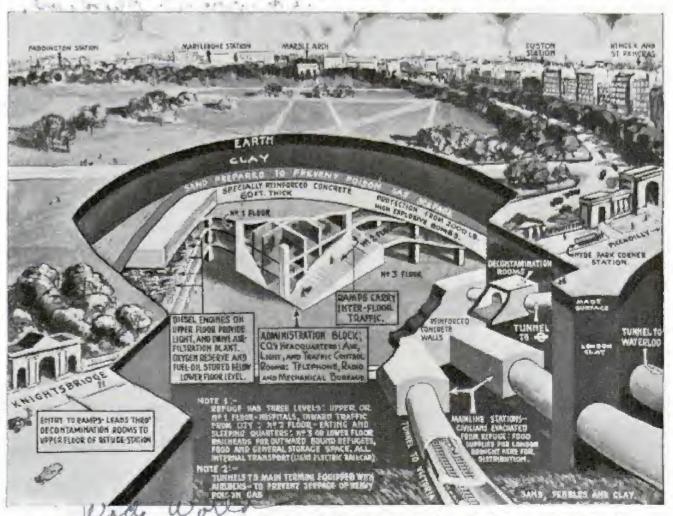
Beaver Engineers Show Skill Damming 2,000-Acre Lake

Human engineers are getting plenty of competition from the beavers. In Glacier National Park a small colony of beavers has built a dam across the outlet to Bowman Lake, backing up nearly 2,000 acres of water. Although the dam itself is not large, it has impounded a tremendous volume of water and raised the level of the

lake ten inches. The beavers swim a quarter mile to work daily at dusk. Last spring the beaver colony numbered only six, and is still small with the addition of this year's young. Beavers are being encouraged because of the effectiveness of their dams in aiding man's water-conservation and erosion-prevention programs.

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Bombproof Rail Terminal to Shelter a Million



Artist's sketch of tremendous refuge chamber which it is suggested could shelter a million Londoners during air raids, besides providing bombproof rail tunnels to bring in supplies and evacuate refugees

Deep underneath Hyde Park in London a vast bombproof railway terminal is proposed to shelter a million persons in wartime air-raid emergencies and at the same time coordinate traffic. Refugees could be evacuated quickly to the relative safety of the surrounding countryside, and food and fuel could be brought into the city underground. An artist has sketched the project in cross-section, showing rail and traffic tunnels leading to various sections of the city, and all entrances guarded by decontamination chambers to prevent poison gas from entering the refuge. Beneath the thick surface covering of earth and clay would be a layer of sand prepared to stop gas seepage, then a sixty-foot layer of reinforced concrete which would shield the subterranean chamber from bombs.

Send return postage to our Bureau of Information to learn the name of the maker of any device described in this magazine.

Pistol Fires Paint "Bullets" to Check Auto Brakes

Firing cartridges loaded with paint pigment, a pistol-like device shows the distance necessary to bring an automotive vehicle to a stop after the brake has been applied. An electrically operated contact



switch which causes the pistol to fire is attached to the brake pedal. After the car is brought to a stop, a tape is used to measure the distance from the marked spot on the pavement where the brakes were applied to the point where the tar stopped.

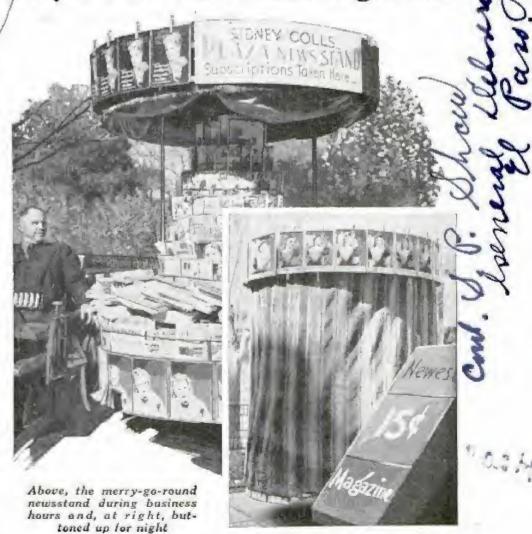
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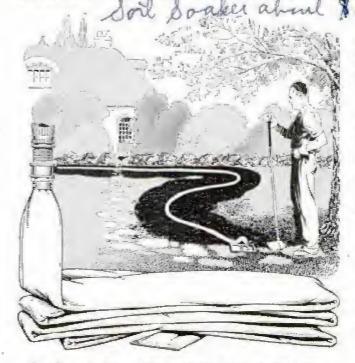
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Homemade Merry-Go-Round Sells Magazines

Whirling at the touch of a finger, a merry-goround newsstand was built by a sidewalk dealer at El Paso, Tex., to display his magazines. It has ample display space, with racks pyramiding up the center pole which supports the rainproof canopy, and it revolves smoothly on ball bearings in either direction. The stand is supported by a four-inch pipe sunk in concrete two and onehalf feet in the ground. The main post is an old automobile drive shaft extending from the bottom of the pipe to a point five feet above ground. The bearings at top and bottom of the four-inch pipe were taken from a truck wheel. The canvas, which covers the stand at night, is raised and lowered by ropes and pulleys.



Porous Hose Waters Lawn Properly by Gentle Seepage:



Black area shows how seepage hose waters lawn.

Below is the folded base

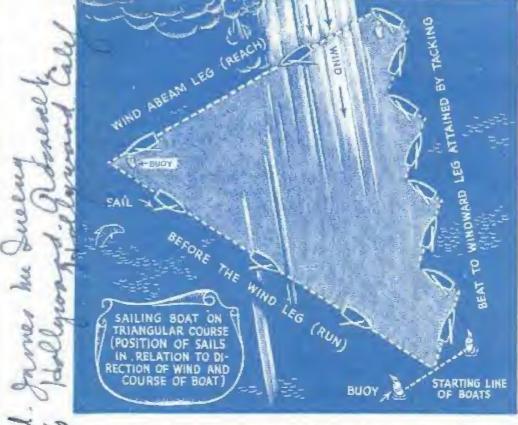
Proper watering of the lawn is made easy by using a porous section of hose which is attached to the end of the garden hose in place of the sprinkler. It is eighteen feet long. Water seeps gently through thousands of pores in the canvas, eliminating spray, soil washing and running off. Every drop of water is placed where desired, even in narrow parkings, narrow flower beds, on terraces and under hedges. The hose may be moved without shutting off the water. It makes possible the employment of the deep-soaking method recommended by experts as more beneficial than surface sprinkling.

(INames and addresses of manufacturers and dealers in articles described in this magazine will be furnished by our Bureau of Information upon request accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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YACHTSMEN go to



Top, typical summer afternoon on the club float at Massachusetts Institute of Fechnology. Bottom, example of instruction given the student in yachting schools

ACHTING no longer is a rich man's sport. It's possible to become a yachtsman on a very limited budget. Yacht clubs blanket the country. Thousands of persons are sailing boats in freshwater lakes, tens of thousands in salt water.

And what's more, you can advance much more rapidly in the sport than ever before, thanks to the yachting schools being conducted in many sections. There are courses for yachtsmen of every grade, from the beginner who aspires to be skipper of a snipe to the old salt in search of charts and sailing directions for a voyage around the world.

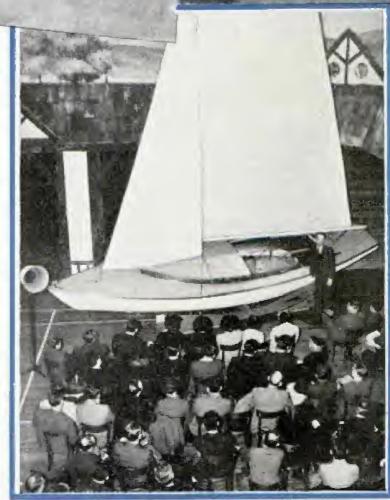
With a pair of bell-botmile with a state



SCHOOL

tom dungarees, some low-heeled tennis shoes and a sailing cap, you're all set. There's no trouble learning to sail. You can declare your intentions to the commodore of the nearest yacht club, or, if you live in a large city, to a department-store floor walker.

A New York store first experimented with classes in sailing last spring. A sailing expert was brought in to instruct 400 beginners in handling the tiller and when and when not to use the centerboard. A twenty-threefoot senior knockabout boat was put up in the classroom and the pupils were taught how to tack, trim the jib, and other points before going out to Milton Point, Rye, N. Y., for three sailing lessons. So enthusiastic was the response to these classes that similar ones are being arranged by boat builders in other stores through-



Top, students learning fine points of navigation. Bottom, sailing class in New York department store which was attended by more than 400 beginners



The thirty-eight boats owned by the group are a modification of the regular "frost-bite" dinghy and were designed by M.I.T.'s department of naval architecture to meet the student's requirements. It was necessary that these boats be sporty, yet safe, roomy and designed so they easily could be dismantled of rig and sails and stowed in racks in the clubhouse. Since the students have only a limited number of hours of recreation, it also was essential that the boats could be placed in operation within a few

out the country. The lack of a membership in a yacht club need not deter you from learning the sport. Commodores of public rental fleets offer well-planned courses that compare favorably with those offered by private clubs.

Sailing has returned to favor in intercollegiate sport circles and extracurricular studies in all phases of yachting may be found at Brown, Harvard, Cornell, Dartmouth, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. With more than forty small sailing craft, excellent water facilities, sailing pavilion with classrooms, workshops, recreation rooms, and instruction covering the whole field from rudiments to advanced navigation, yacht design, and marine engineering at its disposal, M.I.T. has become the greatest incubator of sailing interest in the country.

Since the project was started two years ago, the students have turned in more than 16,000 sailing hours, according to Walter C. Wood, who serves as sailing master. Last year, his records show, 691 students and faculty members were taught how to sail. More than eighty per cent of these were from inland cities and had to be put through the shore school before being allowed to take out the boats. Everyone who signs up for the sport is given a test and his basic rating is determined.



Top, student picking rudder for a race. Bottom, another example of yachting instruction

minutes so their pilots would have a maximum sailing time. These dinghies are twelve and one-half feet long, five feet wide, and have sixty-nine square feet of sail when cat-rigged and ninety square feet when sloop-rigged. They weigh 175 pounds and may be lifted easily by two men. Of lapstream construction, they have cedar planking and mahogany trim.

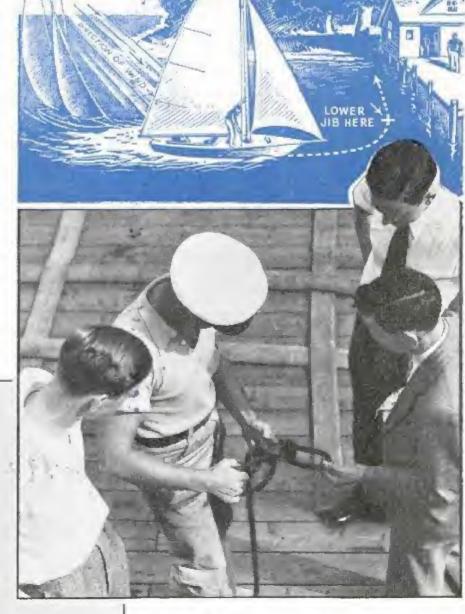
Shore school is conducted several afternoons weekly, not unlike a regular college course. The first step in the beginner's training is to study for a crew rating. In order to pass this test, he must be able to tie nine different knots, make four types of splices, know the nomenclature of cordage, belay to a cleat or pin, coil halyards, heave a line, know the principles of anchoring and mooring a boat, understand COMING TO

MIND AND TIDE

ANCHOR BEFORE

and use blocks and tackles, and know something of vessels. In addition, he must be a good swimmer and versed in the rules of the road.

Classroom work coupled with actual sailing experience is the plan of the second group, the helmsmen or skippers. To earn this rating, a sailor of crew rank must be capable of launching, rigging, hauling and stowing his dinghy without assistance, learn how to set and trim sails and his boat. and demonstrate a beat, reach, run, tack, jib, and luff, make a float landing on leeward and windward sides of the dock, furl and stop sail, pick up a moor-



ANCHOR HEAD TO WIND AND LOWER THE MAINSAIL



Top, another step in sailing lessons. Center, explaining intricacies of "Spanish bowline." Bottom, doctors prescribe sailing as a tonic for jangled nerves

ing, and be able to give orders to a crew during these maneuvers. After he has successfully passed this test, the skipper can take out a boat at any time but he still must qualify in more examinations before he is eligible to compete in races. There are two additional rankings, coxswains and boatswains, and those who qualify for them assist in the instruction the conduct of races and regattas, and other activities of the organization.

The yachting schools for seasoned veterans are typified by Frank Benham's University of Navigation at the San Diego Yacht club. Its graduates are conspicuous in racing and cruising activities in the Pacific. They have raced to Honolulu and the

(Continued to page 138A)

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POPULAR MECHANICS

Seven-Mile Parachute Jump Sets a New Record



Parachute jumper in complete out it just before making record leap from plane

Leaping from an airplane at an altitude of 35,075 feet, nearly seven miles up, James Williams, a Frenchman, recently established a new record for parachute jumping. Although he carried two parachutes, Williams did not open either of them until he had dropped to within 650 feet of the ground. He wore an oxygen mask and carried recording instruments.

Spring Latch Grips Small Door and Holds It Shut

SAMMAD.

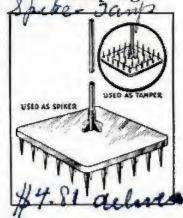
Intended for use on small or medium-sized cabinets and cupboards, wardrobes and closet doors, a door closer with a strong spring grips the door and holds it snug. Even warped doors are

pulled tight. No mortising is required. A hook is screwed to the inside of the door,

and the housing containing the finger grip is installed on the door jamb. When the door is open this finger grip reaches out a half inch and actually grabs the door and pulls it shut with a four-pound pull that prevents rebound or rattling.

Spike-Studded Garden Cultivator Is Reversible for Tamping

Spiker and tamper are combined in a garden tool useful for various operations in lawn-making and maintenance. Attached to its fourfoot handle is a metal plate nine inches square, one surface studded



with thirty-six spikes an inch and threequarters long, for use in perforating the sod to admit air, water and fertilizer, or for breaking up clods. The other surface is smooth, for use in tamping the earth. The handle is changed from one side to the other simply by turning a nut.

Tiny Car Copied from Pictures with Knife, Saw and File

With only photographs to guide him, Paul Jones, Jr., an eighteen-year-old high school graduate of Winters, Tex., has built a miniature model of a 1938 Chevrolet cabriolet, complete to its driving controls and clear-vision dials on the instrument board. His only tools were knife, saw, file and



Here is the young Texan and his handmade copy of a Chevrolet, complete in every detail

sandpaper. He had no training in woodwork, nor any electrical tools. The tiny car is twentyfive inches long and nine inches wide. The entire model comprises 668 pieces, and the body itself, which is supported by leaf springs made from a clock spring, consists of 426 separate pieces. Its doors open to reveal a front seat upholstered, like the rumble seat, with imitation leather, and there is a package ledge back of the driver's seat. The windshield wiper blade lies snugly against the lower molding of the V-shaped windshield. The running boards have tread edged with extradeep rubber molding. The windows provide typical "no-draft" ventilation, and even the rubber tires. the radio antenna and fender guides are faithful copies of the originals.

'Parking Space' for Steamers & Has Concrete Hitching Posts



Parking is no problem to pilots of Ohio river boats at Cincinnati. The city has provided these huge concrete "hitching posts" for steamers

Cincinnati has provided a special "parking lot" for steamboats. When the Ohio river boats come to town they can tie, up on the downstream side of one of the huge concrete hitching posts lined up near the shore.

Robot Court Reporter Takes Trial Evidence for Typist

In place of the shorthand reporter, an electric robot took down the testimony at a recent courtroom hearing in Yakima,



Microphones in courtroom pick up testimony during trial and this robot reporter records it on wax

Wash. Tireless and accurate, this robot court reporter has the advantage of catching the vocal inflections of judge, witness or attorney and being able to play back immediately any testimony it has record ed. A sensitive microphone picks up the proceedings without loss of volume or detail, and can make the permanent record if desired, miles away from the courtroom. This record is made on wax cylinders, and the device has two drums; as soon as on is completed the second automatically takes up the recording, so that there is no interruption in change-over. The cylinders can be delivered to typists as rapidly as they are filled, thus speeding up transcription. The records are played back through earphones or a loud speaker, the equipment operating on ordinary 110-120 volt current. Construction is so simple that any radio man could repair the machine quickly should a breakdown occur.

Hansas Cety mo



This crowd around the microphone shows the popularity of radio programs in which any one may participate

PART I

VARIETY is the spice of radio. The national appetite for the man-bites-dog brand of loud-speaker entertainment is insatiable and an army of idea men, oddity hunters, curio seekers and news hawks constantly is devising new thrills to please laded radio ears.

The one-armed paper hanger with hives, the talking dog, the singing mouse—all are grist for the radio mills. So is the engineer's first-person account of how he amputated his own leg to prevent the explosion of a wrecked locomotive boiler, or an informal glimpse into the life of a flag-pole sitter or the town crier.

There has been a growing desire on the part of listeners to have a hand in the programs. Consequently, the program makers have hatched hobby programs, curbstone interviews, old-time spelling bees, telepathy tests, puzzle programs and other audience-participation features. Even the old New England town meeting has been revived to reawaken the individual citizen's political consciousness by an uncensored broadcast of conflicting political views.

Behind-scenes operations of radio's thrillhunters show much spade work must be done in order to assemble sufficient data for a typical program. They make a careful check of the suggestions the postman dumps into their laps each morning. That is no small task, for if all the requests made to appear on "We, the People" were granted, approximately thirtyseven hours of radio time would have to be devoted

to this single show each week.

While these suggestions are being culled, staff workers study books and magazines for potential air sensations. Newspaper clipping bureaus have a regular service dealing with human-interest items for the radio specialists. Libraries are probed for material on amazing lives, incredible adventures, and forgotten heroes.

Of course, the leader of the oddity hunting guild is Robert L. Ripley, who generally climaxes a bizarre air skit with proof in the form of the person around whom the incident has been patterned. For example, one of his thrills concerned a wealthy Indian maharajah who had been living incognito near Sturgis, Miss. The maharajah related how he once had grieved because specialists told him he could not survive an operation to clear a brain in-



fection. Bent on taking his own life, he fired a suicide bullet into his head. Instead of killing him, the bullet cleared away the infection, enabling him to regain good health.

Another guest was a Cleveland workman who fell from a building scaffold and cracked a concrete sidewalk with his head. They rushed him to a hospital but his two-inch skull was still intact. Another believe-it-or-notter, an officer of the United States navy, fell from a balloon, directly into the path of an oncoming battle-ship. He was run over by the man-o'-war and given up for lost until a searching party espied him clinging to some anchor buoys.

Anyone who follows an unusual line of work is greeted with open arms by the broadcasters. A Philadelphia professional blood donor who has undergone 324 transfusions aired his experiences on a



Top, here the news-caster is telling the thrilling story of a track event while his microphone picks up the sound of dramming hoofs. Bottom, playing a strange-looking instrument

Kentucky leering

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Lumbia Padio



On the air with Major Bowes and his amateurs. The major is sitting behind the desk at left of stage, while the audience of about 1,300 is shown facing him and two performers

national broadcast as did the man who rides a pony in front of every New York Central freight train as it enters the heart of New York City. The latter's listeners were puzzled until he explained the ride is made to keep the railroad company's franchise intact.

Another commentator, John Nesbitt, ferrets out hard-to-believe incidents con-

nected with the lives of celebrities and private citizens. One of his findings concerned a Philadelphia invalid who, during the past six years, has made 30,000 personal telephone calls from her bed. She calls hospital internes, police desk sergeants, hotel clerks, watchmen, and other night workers, greeting them in a soft pleasant voice with, "How are you getting along? This is the Duchess."

Phillips H. Lord contends
every man or woman is a good
actor if given the assignment
of telling his or her own life
story. He has proved this point
repeatedly in the presentation
of such personalities on his police dramas, as the paroled
North Carolina convict who

told a coast-to-coast audience how it felt to be condemned to the electric chair seven times and then finally pardoned for a crime in which he had no part.

Almost six million brain teasers have been mailed to "Professor Quiz" by radio enthusiasts. On each broadcast, five persons are selected from the studio audience to come before the microphone and test

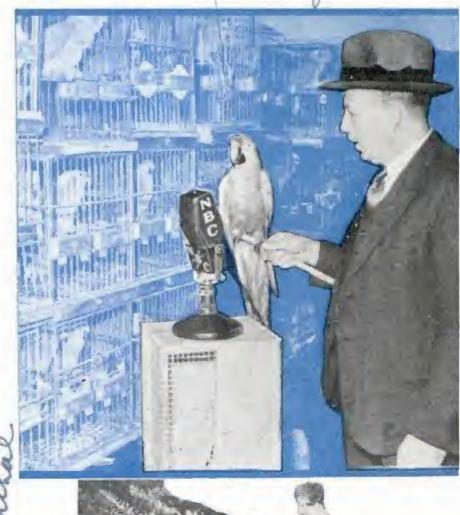


Robert L. Ripley in the Garden of Eden. Believe it or not, there's not an apple tree in sight, says Mr. Ripley

POPULAR MECHANICS

their skill in quick thinking. Whenever the air "prof" misses on a question, it becomes a dinnertable topic of conversation for the nation. The monkey-on-the-rope problem, probably the most famous question of the series, stumped him. The problem was: A rope is hanging over a pulley; on one end hangs a certain weight. On the other end is a monkey of exactly the same weight. The monkey starts to climb the rope. What happens to the weight on the other end?

Prominent scientists became involved in the battle after the professor stated the weight would remain on a level with the monkey. To settle the argument, the experiment was performed with the help of a circus monkey and a weight. The weight went up.





Top, putting parrot through paces in radio's hunt for best talker. Bottom, left, costly gems used in radio dramatization of a big jewel robbery. Right, telephone exchange during a Bowes program

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Lips Operate Shutter Cable Leaving Hands Free



Using both hands to focus and steady the camera, the photographer releases shutter with his lips

Both hands can be freed to focus and steady the camera by using a mouth-operated shutter release cable just put on the market. Simply closing the lips trips the shutter. This method avoids jarring the camera and makes for sharper pictures. The attachment can be used with any cable release camera.

Master Mixing Rack for Paints Measures Out Base Colors



Sixteen onegallon cans mounted on a simple rack hold all the essential base colors for convenient and accurate mixing of paints to match automobile body tints. Each can is fitted with a

special lid designed for easy agitation by hand or electricity, and for rapid, easily controlled flow. The empty can is placed on a sliding tray which travels along either row of cans. One of the four micromatic gauges (for pint, quart, half-gallon or gallon cans) is attached to the can and set for the quantity called for by the master formula book, the valve gate is opened and the required amount poured. In this manner a pint of any shade, exactly matching the original factory color, can be prepared in a few minutes and the need for a large inventory of mixed colors is eliminated.

Bartana Tree Grows in House to Twenty-Foot Height

Constructed to keep out cold, a special house protects a banana tree being grown in Tennessee, far from its native soil. The tree, measuring twenty feet in height and thirty-one and one-half inches in circumference, grew from a three-foot sprout in about eleven months. The house around the tree is twenty feet high and six feet square. Building paper on the sides keeps out the cold air, while glass panes on the front allow the sunlight to reach the tree.



Banana tree is visible through window of shelter built to guard against cold weather

H 3 %. POPULAR MECHANICS rochecter 16

Flier Takes His Picture with Camera on Wing

By attaching his camera to the left wing of his small cabin plane, a Rochester, N. Y., pilot was able to take his own picture while flying above his home city. The folding camera was screwed inside a cigar box, which in turn was screwed to a post fastened beneath the wing. At the right moment the flying photographer pulled the string and the shutter clicked.

Molasses Road Surfacer Is Tested in India/

vealed the practicability of converting molasses into an insoluble resinous product suitable for use as road-surfacing material. The process involved the resinification of molasses with a mixture of coal tar and asphalt in presence of acids. The cost is said to be about one-third that of asphalt. The new product is liquid at the time of application and does not melt in hot weather after being spread on the road. The surface of the molassescovered road sometimes shows' signs of peeling after two or three months, which necessitates application of a seal-coating material to restore the surface to proper condition. The surfacing material and the coating are patented in India,



Top, pilot pulls cord tripping shutter of camera to take his picture. Below, camera mounted in cigar box fastened to wing

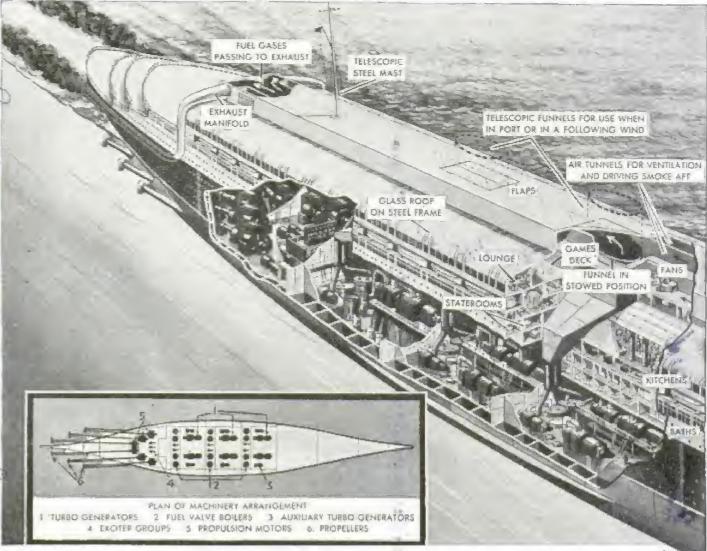
Tape Spun from a Glass Marble to Insulate Electric Coils



Insulating tape is woven of glass thread so fine a strand 150 miles long is drawn from small marble

Glass tape to insulate the coils of electric motors is being woven from strands only one-eighth as thick as a human hair. From glass marbles three-quarters of an inch in diameter these strands are drawn, each marble yielding a strand more than 150 miles long. Strands are then twisted into thread, 204 strands to each thread, and the thread is woven into tape that is fireproof, has high dielectric and mechanical strength and does not absorb moisture. Westinghouse engineers are experimenting with this tape to increase the power and efficiency of electric motors.

THE LINER



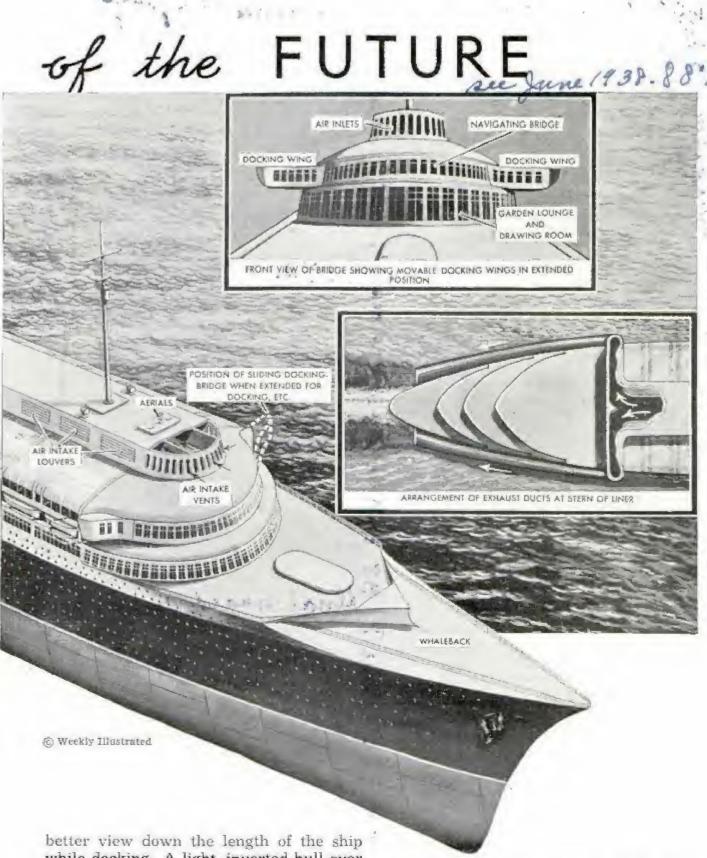
A ERONAUTICAL designers already are putting on paper their plans for hundred-passenger air leviathans that will shorten the gap between Europe and America. Transatlantic air liners soon will be in real competition with ocean liners, and now marine engineers have begun to sketch plans for ships that can stay in competition with the fliers. One design proposes a six-screw vessel that could cross the Atlantic in three and one-half days, driven by six main propulsion motors of at least 66,000 horsepower each. Their current would be supplied by six turbogenerators with a capacity of 51,000 kilowatts each. Such a power plant, developing a total of around 400,000 horsepowerthe "Queen Mary" rates about 200,000 horsepower-would consume 2,150 tons of fuel oil a day, requiring vast storage tanks and some method of ballasting to maintain

equilibrium as the oil is consumed. The engineers figure this huge streamline vessel could run five or six knots faster than any present ship, and more time could be made up by landing passengers at Montauk Bay and putting them on a fast "boat train" down Long Island to New York. This would save about ten hours, eliminating about 170 miles from the ship journey, besides the slow process of docking in New York harbor,

During a voyage, the fuel gases would be exhausted from vents at the stern. However, in harbor or in case of a strong following wind the gas would be diverted to two funnels, situated in the conventional place amidships but telescoping, when not in use, through flaps in the top deck. Another suggested innovation is a control bridge provided with movable wings which can be extended from either side for a

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better view down the length of the ship while docking. A light, inverted hull over the main deck would provide a streamline superstructure. As much as possible, the designers propose to eliminate external gear; the lifeboats are under cover, and the steel masts telescope into the deck. The glass roof of the top deck is strong enough to resist the battering of Atlantic gales.

The superliner as planned by A. C. Hardy and Pierre de Malglaive would be

about 1,350 feet from bow to stern, compared with the 1,108-foot length of the "Queen Mary." Its cost has been estimated between forty and fifty million dollars—considerably under the figure to be spent on each of the superdreadnaughts projected for the U. S. navy. Construction would take three years or more, and provide work for thousands of men.

POPULAR MECHANICS Serve

Lard Dispenser for Grocery Measures Correct Weight



Cranking out lard to the penny's worth with dis- aware that a fire has started.

Measuring out lard like the fuel pump at a gasoline station, a dispenser eliminates waste and assures cleanliness. It is accurate, measuring lard to the exact penny's worth. When the 110-pound lard can arrives, the grocer removes the lid and fits over the lard a rubber diaphragm. A jack pushes the container upward, and pressure forces the lard into the measuring block. Having figured how much pressure it takes to eject a pound, the inventors calibrated a scale so that the grocer knows the proper pressure to deliver the weight of lard desired. By turning a crank, the lard is poured into a wrapper.

Pilots Cannot Be Acclimated to High-Altitude Flying

Unlike mountaineers, aviators do not become acclimated to high altitudes. Experiments conducted by Capt. H. G. Armstrong of the army medical corps indicate

that short periods of flight at high altitudes have a dangerous cumulative effect of diminishing the oxygen in the tissues, and pilots flying only three hours a day complain of chronic fatigue. Rabbits can stand altitudes one and one-half times higher than man, and for two weeks of daily experimental four-hour "flights" in 18,000-foot atmosphere, corresponding to 12,000 feet for man, they stood up well; then they suddenly began to lose weight, became anemic and paralyzed, and most of them did not survive four weeks.

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Fire Detector Closes Windows, Turns on Water Curtain

Protection of buildings from fire in a structure near by is afforded by automatic equipment now on the market. The apparatus detects heat from a fire in an adjoining building before it becomes serious and automatically closes windows in the building it protects. Then it releases a water curtain. Heretofore it has been necessary to close windows manually and to turn on the water curtain from some central source. The automatic equipment saves time and reduces loss by operating in many cases before persons in the building are



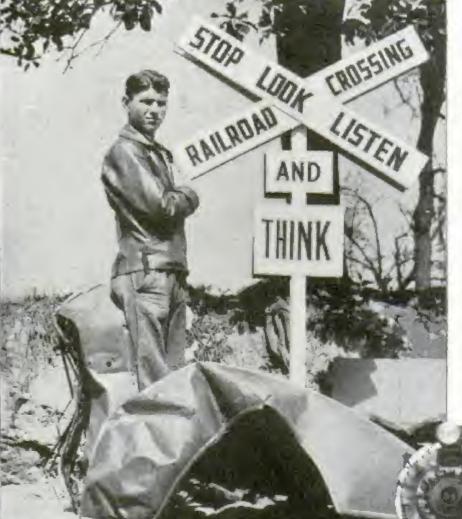
Automatic sprays in action to protect windows against heat from fire next door

PLOWING into the Bottom of the SEA CHAR THE LUCAS GRAPKEL FOR GRAPPLING THE CABLE FROM THE DEEP SEA BOTTOM DYNAMOMETER - ESSENTIAL IN SHEAVES REGISTERING OVER CABLES WHICH PULL CHAIN. LINES OR LOCKER CARIES ARE BUN DRUMS CABLE AS ON WHICH USHALLY CABLE PAID BOARDS OF UNITS ARE OUT FROM NETS INJURE MOUND DRUMS TO THE CABLE SHEAVES RANGE FINDER WORLD'S USEDIN LONGEST CHECKING CHAIN-BUOY WHERE PLOW 4200 FT. POSITION! BEGINS OPERATING OFF THE PLOW AS COAST OF IRELAND ROOM SWUNG OUT. CABLE BEING FOR TRAWLERS, DRAG-LATERITIS TESTED CABLE CING THEIR NETS LOWERED HAVE DAMAGED THE FROM THE THANS-ATLANTIC SHIPS BOW CABLES TO THE EX-ORWARD TENT OF \$800,000 YEARLY, BURYING CABLE TANKS A CABLE IN THE FURROW MADE CABLE BYASUBMARINE ALREADY PLOW WILL, IT IS BELIEVED, PROTECT TESTED IT FROM FUTURE BOBBERS HARM ... THE PREVENT EXAMINING A DARING PLAN CABLE TO FIND FOULING OF OF "WESTERN UNION." POINT OF INJURY ELECTRIC CABLE THE CABLE SHIP LORD WITH CHAIN KELVIN WITH A STOR-OTHER . LINES PLOWING OF DEEP-SEA CABLE, CABLE AND LAY-PREPARING TO PLOW ING THE THE CABLE INTO THE SE DEPTH ABOUT CABLEAT BOTTOM ... HOW CABLE 2000 FEET THE SAME IS PAID OUT TIME > FROM AN AF BURIED CABLE TANK WAR THE STREET ELECTRIC CABLE AND -BUOYANT BOBBER PLOW'S ROLL OR PITCH RECORDED BY PENDULUMS
AND DATA TRANSMITTED BY ELECTRIC CABLE TUBULAR STEEL RIBS BURIED CABLE TLANTIC WHEEL WITHIN MESH CABLE SHARE GUIDES FREES STEEL SHARE 25-F CABLE INTO DECK WHICH MAKES ELECTRIC CABLE CONNECTING PLOW'S PEN-LONG FURROW FROM STONES, ETC. " 18-IN. DEEP FURROW DULUMS WITH INSTRUMENTS ON SHIP'S BRIDGE PLOW

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To protect their submarine transatlantic cable from continual damage by fishermen's dragnets, the Western Union Telegraph company plans literally to "plow under" the cable. A steel plow weighing more than eleven tons and dragged by a chain made of 12,500 nickel steel links capable of withstanding 65,000 pounds stress will turn up an eighteen-inch deep furrow and bury the cable in the ocean bed. Site of project is off the Irish coast

MAKING J



by motorists is growing every year. Just recently a train in Arkansas hit an empty automobile abandoned on the tracks and the engine, two baggage cars, four day coaches and two Pullmans were derailed, killing three trainmen and three passengers. In a similar accident in Kansas, no one was killed or seriously hurt, but more than \$100,000 damage was done when the locomotive and two baggage cars turned over, another car stood on end and a fourth left the rails.

The Arkansas accident was the exception to the

NE thousand three hundred and five people were killed and 3,266 injured during the first nine months of 1937 at highway grade crossings in the annual meeting between careless motorists and fast trains.

Just 3,094 motorists, an average of more than eleven per day, partici-

pated in the casualty roll. No automobile has yet won the right-of-way argument with a train, though plenty of trains have lost it, thereby making more jobs for the men who man the big hook with which wreckage is removed from the tracks and who answer the screaming whistle for the wrecking train.

Damage done to American railway trains



Top, safety exhibit in a Parade of Horrors urges the motorist to stop, look, listen-and think. Bottom, rains of oil truck after crash at crossing. The oil tank, ignited in the accident, was carried 1,000 feet down the track

rule that modern railroad passanger trains are the safest form of mass transportation. All-steel cars do not telescope, as their wooden predecessors did. Neither do they burn, as cars did in the days of wood construction, coal-burning heating stoves and gas lighting. About the worst injuries a passenger can expect normally are bruises or cuts from flying glass.

Junior Chamber of Commerce

for the BIG HOOK



For the trainmen who sit in the cab watching a speeding motorist trying to race the train to a crossing, the case is far different. With an intense fire in the firebox at their feet, ready to ignite the gasoline from a wrecked automobile, with hundreds of tons of speeding train at their backs, ready to climb over a wrecked engine, and with tons of coal waiting to pour down into the cab and bury them against the hot boiler head, their chance of escape is little better than that of the foolish automobile driver speeding to cross the tracks in front of them.

What does an engineer think about while his train is being knocked off the track by an automobile? the Kansas engineer was asked as he sat on the side of his overturned locomotive, half buried in the mud and water beside the track.

"There isn't time to think until after it is all over," he explained. "We were almost on top of the automobile when we came around the curve and sighted it. The train traveled thirteen car lengths from that spot until the engine turned over. We were doing fifty miles per hour when I saw the stalled auto, so it was only a matter of seconds until we were in the ditch.

"In that time the fireman shut off the oil feed to the firebox to prevent a fire. We could smell the gasoline from the automobile's fuel tank, for the wreckage was mostly wrapped up around the trailing trucks right under us. I had shoved the



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Top, steel barrier rising out of pavement to halt autos. Center, train-school bus wrechage. Bottom, arrow points to body of truck driver taled in wreck

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sentative of the average railroad accident of that type.

In front was a high-wheeled locomotive, followed by two baggage cars, a combination baggagedormitory car for use of diningcar waiters, two Pullmans, a diner, a lounge car, four Pullmans and an observation car.

The locomotive and tender, fully loaded, weighed 573,000 pounds. That includes 3,600 gallons of fuel oil, at seven pounds to the gallon, and 10,000 gallons of water, figured at seven and one-half pounds per gallon, so the variation between full load and empty is only

brake lever over to full service application and shut off the emergency fuel oil valve in the tender head, back of me, to keep the 1,500 gallons of fuel in the tank from feeding down if fire did break out. Then I tried to apply the emergency brake, after the speed had dropped enough to make it safe. Next thing we turned over. My side was on top and I told the fireman, 'I think we can get out here' and he said, 'Well, get out of the way and I'll try it."

The engine crew probably owed their escape to the use of oil fuel. The firebox blaze was extinguished when the fireman

closed the valve, and there was not sufficient heat in the metal to explode the gasoline vapor from the wrecked automobile. Likewise there was no coal to crush them, and the tender fuel tank held together, so no oil was spilled into the wreckage. Although they rode 286 tons of engine into the ditch, with 835 tons of train pushing it on, their injuries were limited to bruises and cuts.

What happened to the Kansas train, a standard transcontinental flier, is repre-

N - 3 143 1 5.



Top, auto equipped with automatic signal mounted on steering column which warns of danger as it is actuated by magnetized steel plates beside highway, near a crossing or similar hazard. Bottom, San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge tunnel is free from crossing peril, since interurban trains run on a deck below

fifty of the locomotive and tender's 286½ tons. The six Pullmans, at seventy tons each, weighed 420 tons, the two baggage cars totaled 120 tons, the baggage-dormitory car seventy-five tons, the diner eighty tons, the lounge seventy-two tons and the observation car sixty-eight tons, or a total for cars of 835 tons and for complete train of 1,121½ tons. The train was about 1,121 feet long.

At fifty miles per hour that 2,243,000 pounds of train was traveling 4,400 feet

per minute, or 731/4 feet per second, and the engineer estimated that when the stalled automobile first came into view it was not more than fifty feet from the engine, so there was less than five-sevenths of a second between first sight and crash. The light automobile was shoved ahead of the train, parts of it catching on the roadbed and between the crossties and the rest being forced back under the pilot. When the locomotive came to rest the auto radiator was still hanging on the engine pilot, a portion of one auto wheel was lying beside the locomotive, and the rest of the vehicle was crushed in an unrecognizable mass under the engine firebox.

A simple multiplication shows that 2,243,000 pounds of train multiplied by a speed of 4,400 feet per minute strikes a blow of 9,869,200,000 foot-pounds-so it is not surprising that an automobile weighing a couple of tons can't win an argument with a train. Surprisingly enough, all that energy can be used up and the train brought to a standstill without serious damage to equipment or passengers. To the passengers in the big steel cars the stoppage is just a succession of minor shocks. The first shock is felt when the brakes go on, the next one when the train leaves the track and begins bumping over the ties, and finally a series as cars and engine turn over and are pushed ahead by the still unexpended momentum of the train. If the couplers hold together for a few seconds the cars usually begin to fold up like an accordion, and come to rest back and forth diagonally across the track.

Engineer Harry Clewer, Rock Island railroad veteran, suggests that train derailments in crossing accidents usually occur when the locomotive pilot hits the front portion of the automobile, where the weight of the engine makes it more apt to be dragged under the wheels. When automobiles are hit back of the hood, he observes, they usually are thrown clear.

Superintendents of motive power on various railroads believe the steam-engine pilot design is a contributing factor, and point out that there is no record of any streamline electric locomotive ever being derailed by a crossing obstruction. The smooth, sharply sloping nose of the streamliner either throws an obstruction aside,

(Continued to page 125A)

Neckstrap Steadies Camera for Movie or Time "Still"



Post is adjustable to bring camera to eye level, and is supported by strap hanging from neck

Camera fans who want rock-steady movies or still pictures can use a neckstrap support. The camera is screwed to an adjustable post instead of the usual tripod, and this post rests on the base of a strap hung around the neck. The post can be raised or lowered to put the view finder at eye level. With care, a camera can thus be held steady for a time exposure of as long as two seconds.

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Buffer Disk Cleans Side Walls of White-Rubber Tires

White side walls of automobile tires can be cleaned with a rubber buffer disk when ordinary cleaning methods are ineffective. The buffer is mounted on a flexible shaft. Guided smoothly by hand over the



side-wall surface it takes off grease spots, stains and curb scuff marks.

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54 3 8 2 POPULAR MECHANICS POPULAR MECHANICS

Complete Model Railway Is Built for Movie



Laid out over 2,400 feet of landscaped floor space inside a Hollywood sound stage, one of the most complete model-railway systems ever built was used in a recent motion picture. The double-track system crosses thirteen bridges and there is a multiplicity of switches, crossings, culverts, signal stations, sidings, towers, cut-offs, and cross lines. The track is between

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600 and 700 feet long. Fifteen electric circuits are centered at an elevated operating platform located at one end of the system. From this platform it is possible to start, switch and stop the miniature trains at any point. The model railway is the main feature of a film having as its central character an eccentric millionaire with railroading as a hobby.

HAY FEVER m And How To Escape It

EVERY year a strange storm sweeps across America. No one sees it but millions feel its effect. Originating in Montana and along the Canadian border early in August, great clouds of microscopic dust sweep east and south during the next three months at the rate of thirty-five miles a day.

These particles, yellow in color under a microscope, are pollen granules from the ragweed which causes more than fourfifths of the hay fever cases. By the billions they are picked up by air currents, carried for days across fields, forests and rivers into homes, thea-



Top, exposing pollen slides under shelter which keeps out rain and dirt. Bottom, studying slides for use in compiling national pollen map

ters and office buildings to start the sneezing and weeping that do not abate until the first killing frosts.

For twenty years Oren C. Durham, Chicago botanist, has been studying these pollen storms. A pollen hunter, a pollen counter, he has pursued the yellow dust all over America. His research has been of practical benefit to the hay fever specialists and sufferers.

Medical authorities for a time disagreed as to the weed source responsible for the greatest number of hay fever cases. An accusing finger was pointed at the golden rod. But that notion was dispelled as soon as a scientific investigation had been made. Now it is regarded only as a minor offend-

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POPULAR MECHANICS Chlahma

RAGWEED POLLEN INDEX.

soot, sand and dirt. A cover eight or ten inches above the slide does not interfere with the deposit of pollen.

Throughout the late summer and fall these slides are exposed from coast to coast by the observers of the United States weather bureau,

er. The ragweeds are the real culprits east of the Rockies. Wormwoods and Russian thistles are the troublemakers along the Pacific coast and in Rocky Mountain regions.

The ragweed pollen output of North America is at least a million tons, Durham estimates. Of this amount, approximately 275,000 tons get into the air. It takes a billion granules of ragweed pollen to fill an ordinary teaspoon, but six or seven granules are enough to give the ragweedsensitive person watering, itching eyes, running nose, and all the symptoms of hay fever. With an annual fall of pollen as high as half a ton per square mile in some sections, it is little wonder that hay fever is on the increase. The number of watery, raw noses cannot be gauged accurately, but experts say it's not fewer than one in twenty.

Because the susceptible differ in their degree of sensitiveness and in the types of pollen to which they are allergic, it is important that the sufferer and his physician know the kinds of pollen to be encountered in a certain locality at a specific time. Here is where Durham fits into the picture. He has been responsible for the first pollen map of the United States. This map represents the compilation of accurate pollen information from nearly 100 cities. More than twenty thousand individual air tests have been made and the results carefully tabulated. Small pieces of glass covered with a thin film of vaseline are exposed face up in a horizontal position for a number of hours. They are covered by shelters to keep out rain and particles of



Top, ragweed poilen map, with points free from the pollen being marked zero. Bottom, room air filter for removing pollen from the air

then sent in to the Abbott Laboratories where Durham checks them.

By calculating the rate of fall of the pollen on the slide, Durham is able to determine the intensity of the toxic dust in the air over that city. The slide is approximately one-fourth square inch and as soon as the pollen count is completed he can calculate the amount that falls on a large area such as a square yard or square mile. By averaging the amount found at a representative number of points, he arrives at a fair estimate of the total fall of a particular type of pollen.

Pollen grains vary in size and shape. Under a microscope a ragweed granule resembles a battered golf ball. These grains measure twenty microns, a micron being one-thousandth of a millimeter. Forty of these granules placed side by side would

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scarcely reach across the center of an ordinary pinhole. As long as the granules are kept dry they retain their power to cause hay fever symptoms indefinitely. Fifteen-year-old pollen is virtually as active as grains freshly gathered.

The distances that pollen travels vary. Some only an inch or so, others blocks or even miles. The rate of fall of single grains in perfectly still air is only about ten feet per minute. Because of the columns of heated air that rise from the earth to heights of four to five thousand feet, pollen dust is often carried great distances. By tests made from airplanes, Durham has found that the air thirty miles from the shore of Lake Michigan contained on some days almost as much pollen per cubic yard as that at the same altitude over land.

First as a hobby and later as a business, Durham has been making field surveys since 1924 when he collaborated with Dr. W. W. Duke, a hay fever specialist, in classifying and checking weeds in the vicinity of Kansas City, Mo. The move toward a national pollen survey was started in 1928.

Of the localities studied only Portland and Seattle have been found free of ragweed pollen. The plants do not grow in this area and the Cascade Mountains serve as a barrier against the yellow dust storms from the intermountain region. California and the southwest do not have ragweed but there are local equivalents. Parts of Florida and Alabama, Prince Albert and a few Canadian points have clean slates.

Of course, there are persons who are sensitive to other things besides pollen. The dander of animals frequently causes an allergic condition. So do the minute hairs and scales from butterflies, moths, and some insects. Foods, too, can cause hay fever.

"Modern preventive pollen treatment," Durham explains, "is carried out with pollen extracts, the soluble part of the pollen grains in a preservative solution. Treatment usually starts a month or so before the season begins and after ten or twenty inoculations in increasing doses immunity generally results."

Air filters that fit into home and office windows—have been developed that will remove between ninety-eight and ninetynine per cent of the pollen in a room. Dog Rides His Own Trailer Supporting Broken Back



Pete has lost the use of his hind legs, but gets around nicely with this two-wheeled "trailer" cradle

Despite a broken back, Pete, a Welsh terrier in San Francisco, manages to get around quite well with the aid of two wheels. Pete fell from a third-story window and the injury to his back resulted in paralysis of his hind legs. He might never have walked again—but he does, for a stretcher-like cradle supports his hind quarters while he pulls himself along on his front paws. Meanwhile two-wheeled Pete is being treated and there is hope he may recover the use of his legs.

Impact Indicator on Face of Club Shows Force of Golf Drive

To "meter" the power behind a golfer's drive, a Long Island dentist has invented an impact indicator which is built into the face of the



club. A small disk at the point of impact is the head of a piston which absorbs the force of the stroke, causing a pointer to move across the dial on top of the club.

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Baby's Coop Fitted on Bike Solves Family's Problem

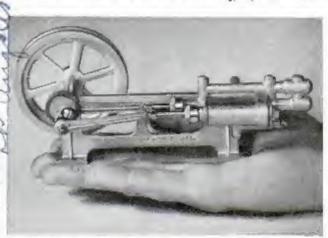


Handlebar coop takes the baby for an outing on dad's bicycle, safe from wind and dust

What to do with the baby when father and mother wish to go cycling has been solved by a Melbourne, Australia, couple. The baby is placed in a neat, glass-inclosed coop fitted on the handlebars of the father's bicycle. The small compartment protects the child from dust and weather.

Midget Steam Engine Handy for the Model Maker

Seven inches long and slightly less than three inches high, a miniature steam engine now on the market can be used to drive small working models, boats and toy mechanisms. It is a precision product, being die cast of a zinc base alloy of high



Tiny engine run by steam, water or air pressure is used to drive boats, toys and small working models

tensile strength. The main shaft, valves and piston are ground to size within very close limits. Valve action is positive, allowing very slow and high speeds. The engine may be operated on steam, air or water pressure. Speeds ranging from 2,000 to 4,000 revolutions per minute have been developed on pressures from two to fifteen pounds. Speeds as low as fifty revolutions per minute can be maintained by using less than two pounds. The engine will run in either direction by changing intake and exhaust lines. It can be taken apart and reassembled easily.

Tractor's Wheels Adjustable to Any Farm Job

Built to perform all kinds of work on the farm, a new six-cylinder tractor has wheels which may be adjusted for different jobs. The rear wheels are adjustable from fifty-six to eighty-four inches, four inches at a time, and the front wheels may be set from fourteen to fifty-six inches. No



Wheelbase and tread of this farm tractor can be changed for road work or cultivating row crops

special tools are needed for setting the wheels. Front and rear wheels may be changed from standard fifty-six inch tread for road work to any setting desired for row crops planted from fourteen to sixty inches apart, including listed crops. As the front wheel setting is changed, the wheel base is lengthened or shortened. The tractor has three speeds forward, from two to eighteen miles per hour, and is equipped with automotive headlights, adjustable so that one may be reversed for night work.

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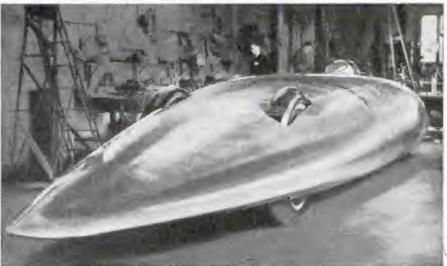
POPULAR MECHANICS

Turreted 'Whale' Tries for Land Speed Title

Beneath the "blister" turret that protrudes above the sleek steel nose of a land-going whale, John Cobb will grip the wheel next August as he roars across the Utah salt flats toward a new land speed record. The lowbuilt racer has remarkably clean lines, broken only by the driver's turret and the four wheels, set in slots through the body; it tapers to a beaver-tail rear end. Designed by Reid Railton, the superspeedster is powered by twin engines of 1,250 horsepower each, driving the front and rear axles independently. Thus the three-ton monster is really two racing cars in one. Lacking the conventional radiator in front, the engines are cooled by water and ice in a seventy-five gallon tank. The wheelbase is thirteen and one-half feet; the car is only fiftyone inches high. Its front wheel track measures five and one-half feet, the rear three and one-half feet.



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Top, fitting protective turret over driver's cockpit in nose of racer. Below, a rear view showing the clean lines and tapering "beaver tail"

Forty Pound Welding Kit Carried on Back Speeds Work



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Carried on the back of the operator, a portable welding outfit speeds up work at Grand Coulee dam. The outfit consists of a midget gas tank and the welding equipment, weighing about forty pounds complete. In comparison, the ordinary gas tanks used in welding weigh about 150 pounds. With the outfit on his back, the welder may go from one job to another, even climbing ladders if necessary.

¶Send return postage to our Bureau of Information to learn the name of the maker of any device described in this magazine.

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"BEATING ACTION" with

YOU'RE out to trap action in pictures? There's more than one way to do it; but whatever way you choose, it will call for speed. Action in front of the camera demands action inside the camera—or behind it.

A quick trigger finger and an eye alert to catch pauses in action can make up for slowness of lens or shutter. Or, to borrow the method popular abroad, you can "swing it" and freeze the action while you blur the background.

Of course, the best camera to use is an action camera: one with high-speed lens and extra-rapid shutter. That combination carries an invaluable "margin of safety." The camera helps make up for your own deficiencies, possible small errors in "timing," and occasional unsteadiness of the hand. In brief, it makes action snapshooting easy.



Even a slow camera can catch a diver at top of his bounce from springboard, for he is momentarily motionless in mid-air. But it took a fast shutter to snap this angle view of the skiers at 1/800 second

Your CAMERA

"But," you may reply, "I haven't a speedy camera. Can I still get action pictures—of a sort?" The answer is that you can, and very good ones—not just pictures "of a sort."

In action snapshooting, the difference between a fast camera and one with slow lens and shutter is that the slow camera puts more responsibility on you. It has less margin of safety than the better instrument. Your timing must be more accurate, your judgment keener and the light must be good. You must give more thought to viewpoint and angle. In brief, you must use your head as well as your lens, and light conditions must



be "with you." Most box cameras have lenses with speed of about f.12.5 and shutter speed averaging between one-thirtieth and one-fiftieth second. Miniatures with lenses as rapid as f.2—thirty-nine times as "fast" as the box-camera lens—and shutters that adjust up to 1500 second can take pictures many times as fast as the box camera; or, with the same shutter speed as the box camera, get a picture at f.2 in light about one-fortieth as strong.

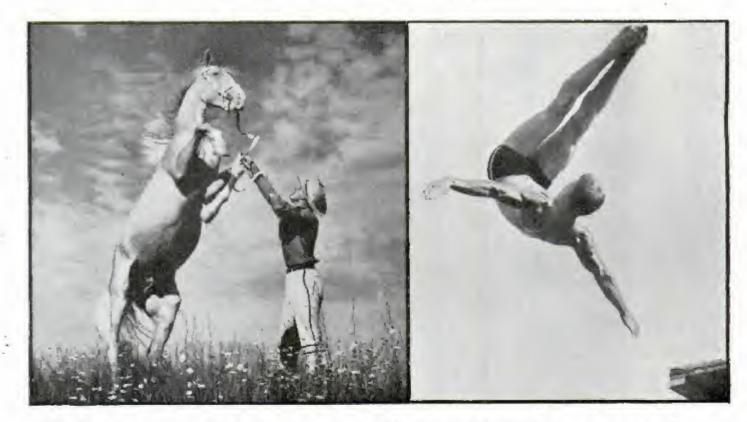
This gives a decided advantage to the

This gives a decided advantage to the owner of the speed camera, especially when light is weak. But, when light is good, there are a number of tricks and dodges that permit the slow camera to obtain effective action pictures.

Four of these "dodges" are especially useful: the head-on viewpoint, the "momentary pause," simulated action, and the "swing" technique used frequently by British and Continental sports photographers.



If shutter is slow, the eye must be quick to catch the pause at top of swing, above. Notice how skarply the speed camera caught ball and club in lower photo



The head-on viewpoint is advantageous when one is picturing an object that is speeding rapidly in a straight line—a racing horse, automobile, motorcycle, train, or runner. Such objects as these, pictured head-on, move quite slowly as far as the camera is concerned—until they get near the camera. The nearer they get, the less your view is "head-on"—for naturally, you will not be standing in the center of the railway track or the motor speedway, but

Stopping action of horse or head-on view of boat is easy, but spinning dive calls for a fast shutter

a bit to one side. At the same time, as the moving object nears the camera, it grows rapidly in size, and this swift expansion tends to blur your picture. So, your rule should be, snap the picture while the object is still some distance away, before you begin to lose the true head-on viewpoint.

Slowly moving objects can be snapped with reasonable assurance of success even when you diverge from the head-on view-point as much as thirty to forty-five degrees. The average speed of a box-camera shutter is one-thirtieth to one-fiftieth second, and with a thirty-degree-angle viewpoint, this speed will "stop" a person walking at the rate of three to four miles an hour, when he is twenty-five feet from the camera.

The required shutter speeds increase rapidly as your angle of view increases, and most things taken at an angle fall into the high shutter speed class. For instance, at a forty-five-degree angle and twenty-five-foot distance, a person walking four miles an hour requires at least one-fiftieth second; horses traveling at eight miles an hour require 1/150, and horse races and bicycle races demand 1/500.

Doubling of the distance between the object and the camera permits you to give twice the shutter time. For instance, at a horse race or bicycle race, where shutter speed of 1/200 would be necessary with a

OPULAR MECHANICS



subject twenty-five feet away, you can give 1/250 second if the subject is fifty feet from the camera. These figures are worth memorizing if you want successful action pictures.

Next in importance to the head-on viewpoint is the momentary pause. Consider, for instance, what happens when a personis swinging in a rope swing. His movement is that of a pendulum—the swing, tures depends on their arrangement and travels upward toward the peak of its subject matter. Straining muscles, tense sweep, slows down as it nears the top,

makes a complete halt, starts down slowly and gathers momentum as it goes. At the top, it is motionless —and if your shutter is snapped just at the moment the peak is reached, swing and swinger will be "frozen" in mid-air. This calls for practice, careful judgmentand yes, luck-but the results are worth the effort.

Study this same sort of phenomenon in the high-jumper, the polevaulter, the javelin-thrower, and on the tennis court. You will find that at certain points there is enough "freezing" of motion to permit sandwiching in a snapshot, even with the slow shutter speeds available on inexpensive cameras. Proper choice of viewpoint lengthens the pause. For instance, the javelin-thrower at the end of, or just before, his throw will, for the camera, be frozen longer with a viewpoint directly behind him or directly in front, than from a side view.

Some of the best "action" pictures one sees actually contain no action—they could have been made even with a short time exposure. The action effect of such pic-

(Continued to page 123A)



Fast train was caught in one twenty-fifth second. Blur in tennis scene and tenseness of fisherman heighten effect of action

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POPULAR MECHANICS Port Chester

Police Car Has a Sliding Roof for Sighting Rifle in Chase

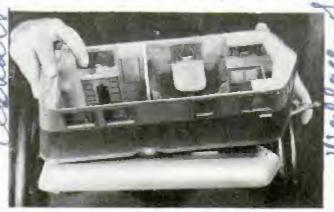


Police officer illustrates how sliding roof panel permits him to stand up and take aim at fugitive

When the roving police squad in Maywood, Calif., engages in a running battle with a fleeing criminal, a panel in the car roof slides back and an officer stands up and sights his rifle with unobstructed view. Seated back of the windshield, the police are at a disadvantage in aiming and firing. With the sliding roof, however, the police can use the rifle to cover a dangerous situation from the start.

Miniature Trailer Home Model Helps Interest Buyers

To interest prospective buyers and help the salesman close deals, one trailer manufacturer supplies its agents with a miniature model of a trailer home, built to scale



With roof removed, interior of model is seen to be furnished exactly like the trailer itself

in every detail. The models are sent also to prospective buyers living in regions far from any dealer. The top of the model is removable to show the arrangement and furnishing of the two room trailer.

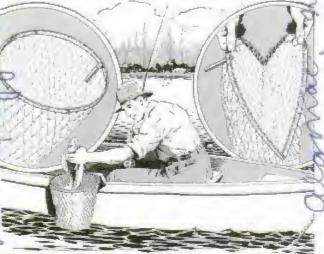
Safety Armored Cable Cutter Used in Any Position

Lending itself to use in any position, close to wall outlets, on the floor or very near the ceiling, an armored cable cutter is handy for the tool bag. It is safe, since there is no



danger of cutting insulation, causing short circuits and incurring injury to hands, knees or clothing. The cutter can be clamped on the workbench. It handles armored electrical cable and Greenfield.

Folding Net Fits in an Oarlock and Keeps the Fish Alive



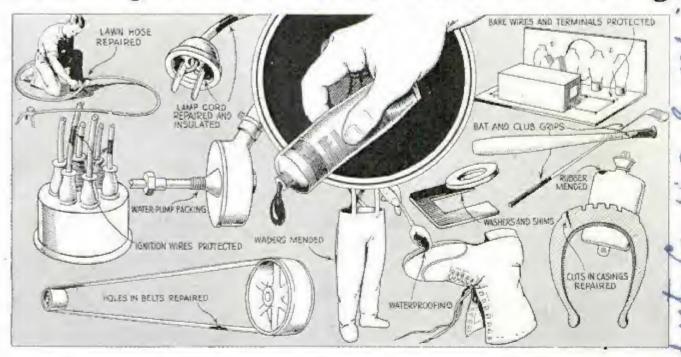
Fish net, shown open and folded, can be attached to parlock, thus leaving both hands of fisherman free

Fish can be kept alive alongside the boat in a net, being introduced this year, which has an attachment that fits into the oarlock. The net need not be lifted while trolling, and thus it is always ready for use and requires no extra hand to hold it. The metal hoop folds up when not in use.

¶Send return postage to our Bureau of Information to learn the name of the maker of any device described in this magazine.

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Mending Plastic Like Rubber Is Self-Curing



CELF-CURING and possessing adhesive properties, a new black-plastic compound fulfills the need for a means of mending and repairing. After being spread on, shaped as desired and allowed to dry, the compound forms a tough, elastic, waterproof patch, resembling vulcanized rubber. Old insulation can be repaired easily or new insulation made for lamp cords, radio wires, auto ignition or electric wires. No tape is required to complete the job, since the compound dries into a firm protective coating. Due to its properties of elasticity and toughness, the compound, which comes in tubes, is an ideal adhesive where resiliency is required. Leaky hose can be mended by applying H 374.

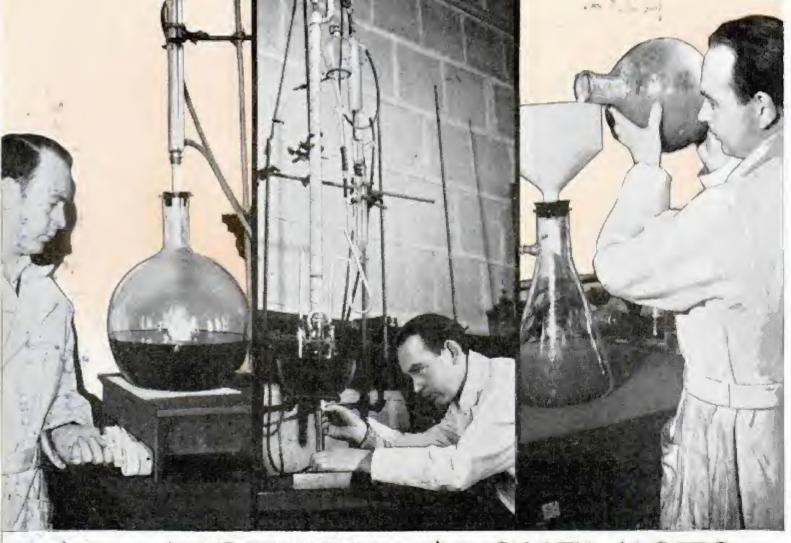
the paste to the hole, or holes, and permitting it to dry. Rubber wading boots may be repaired, shoes may be waterproofed, shoe heels may be built up, hot-water bottles mended, conveyor belts made almostlike new by building up damaged areas with the plastic. Around the automobile. the compound finds dozens of uses, such asrepairing cuts in treads and sidewalls and holes in tire casings, stopping leaks in top, window and windshield, eliminating body rattles and squeaks, mending tears or holes. in seat covers and upholstery, and forming efficient waterproof packing for the pump. Many other uses for the plastic can be found around the home, office, boat, camp, workshop and other places.

Winter "Overshoes" for Plane Are Fitted over Wheels

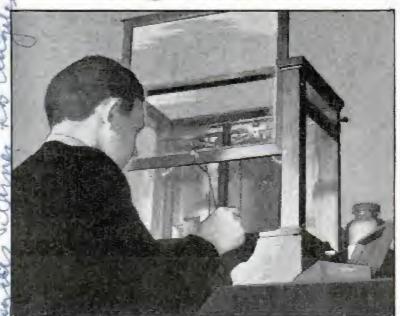
Quick changeover from summer to winter "overshoes" on an airplane is facilitated by a skid developed by a pilot at Regina, Sask. Instead of supplanting the airplane's wheel, this skid fits over the wheel. The flier built the skids in his own shop, using thirty-eight feet of one-inch chrome alloy tubing. Each skid is hinged at both bases and at the top of the wheel; tubes fore and aft and a cotter pin hold it securely. It takes but a few moments to remove the cotter pin and tubes and stow the skids away in the cabin.



Frame of chrome alloy tubing, quickly installed, put winter skids on plane without removing wheels



MODERN ALCHEMISTS



DURING the Middle Ages, the dream of every alchemist was to convert baser metals into gold. Employing the closely guarded secret of the "philosopher's stone," those early experimenters mixed smelly concoctions, let them simmer and stew, bubble and boil, but they could not produce riches.

Top, left, cooking mixture of casein and concentrated hydrochloric acid, first step in producing amino acid known as I-leucine. Center, drawing off leucine in solution. Right, purifying the leucine. Bottom, weighing pure I-leucine on balance that measures weights down to 1/4,500,000 of a pound

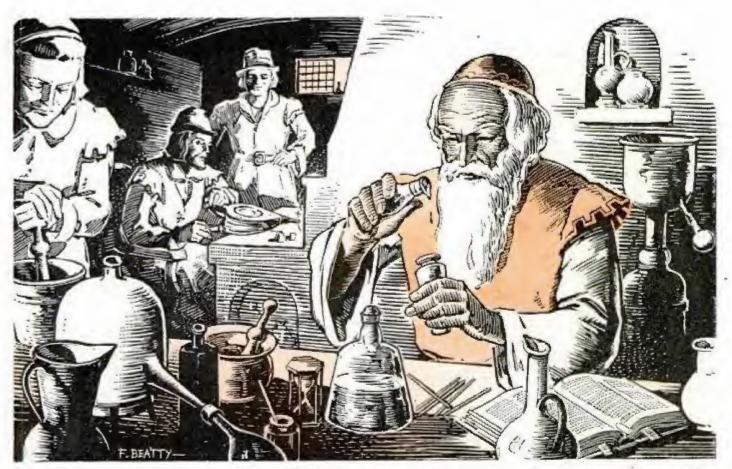
Today, white-smocked scientists in chemical laboratories are using such things as dried blood, chicken feathers, sunflower seeds, cottage cheese, gelatin and sweepings from the barber shop to produce crystals worth twice their weight in gold.

These tiny, jewellike crystals are known as amino acids, and some-kinds sell for 1,000 dollars a pound. To the naked eye, amino acids look like uncolored bath

salts or white talcum powder; under the microscope, the beauty of their crystalline structure is seen.

One of the few places in the United States where you can purchase amino acids is the chemistry department of the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Max Dunn is the twentieth century

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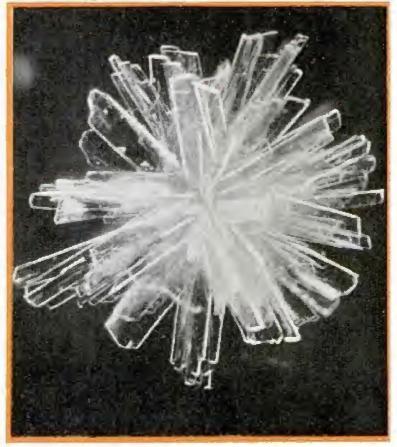


Produce RICHES from SCRAPS

magician who is directing students in the manufacture of these acids to be sold to universities, hospitals, and research laboratories in all parts of the world.

Amino acids are rare chemical substances that seldom occur in a free state. Twenty-two have been discovered and named. They exist in long strings, like beads on a thread, to make up one of the chief constituents of living matter, the protein.

The reducing specialist tells plump young ladies to eliminate fats and carbohydrates from their diets and to eat more protein food. He prescribes lean meat, fish, eggs, fresh vegetables and fruit. Since proteins form an essential part of our diet, it is only natural that they should be transformed into an important part of our bodies. Look at your hands: all that you can see is protein—skin, fingernails, hair. Much of our muscular structure is protein.



Top, alchemists of old vainly sought to convert baser metals into gold. Bottom, amino acid crystals as photographed through the photomicrograph



So complicated is the chemical structure of a protein that no scientist has succeeded in creating a single one. Instead, they have taken it apart and found it to be composed of various kinds of amino acids. Dr. Dunn's first attempt to buy amino acids from commercial drug supply houses proved futile. Of the twenty-two amino acids, only a few were being sold for research purposes. The price was exorbitant, near the cost of platinum. So Dr. Dunn decided to manufacture amino acids in order to obtain invaluable information concerning their physical properties, their structure, and their solubility. Thus began a project

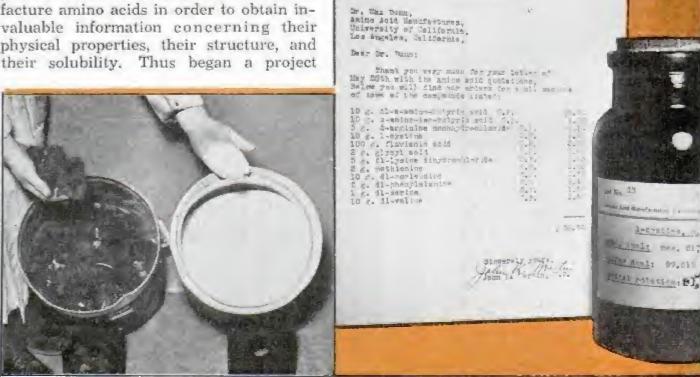
known today as Amino Acids Manufactures, a non-profit venture of the University of California which has been operating on a commercial scale since 1935.

One by one the amino acids began to be manufactured. Price lists were computed and they were sent to universities, clinics, and laboratories throughout the world. Orders poured in. Today, sixteen of the twenty-two amino acids are offered for sale. Even though the project is run on a non-profit basis, so difficult are some of these amino acids to produce that they

sell for more than 1,000 dollars a pound. Others range from five dollars to 800 dollars a pound.

Some kinds of amino acids are made directly from chemical elements by synthetic processes. Others are broken down from animal and vegetable proteins. The meth-

towart to be



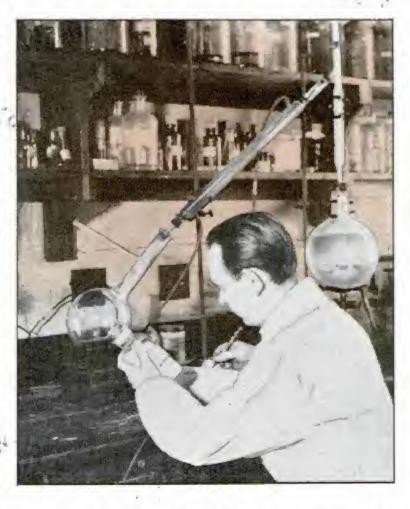
Top, sixteen kinds of amino acids. Bottom, left, can of hair and another of dried cottage cheese, two raw materials from which amino acids are manufactured. Right, sample order for acids, with bottle of J-cystine ready for shipment

POPULAR MECHANICS

od by which these proteins are given the chemical "third degree" is interesting. According to the type of amino acid desired, dried blood, cottage cheese, sunflower seed, wheat, gelatin, or hair sweepings are put in a large flask, mixed with strong sulphuric or hydrochloric acid and heated for twenty-four hours or more. Other chemicals are added and then drawn off by evaporation and filtering. With infinite slowness and precision, superfluous substances are drawn off until all that remains is a bit of precious powder or tiny crystals. These are the amino acids. They are carefully analyzed, bottled and labeled.

According to Dr. Dunn, entirely new processes have been developed. For the first time in chemical history these acids have been reduced to beautiful transparent crystals, looking like rare jewels. Crystallization is a sign of high purity, which is important to the research scientist.

Amino acids are invaluable to man in many ways. If we were deprived of a constant supply of them in the form of proteins, life would soon depart. Man mustdepend upon plants or plant-eating animals for this supply. Plants are the only living things on earth that can absorb , your body. Here they are used as raw machemical salts from the earth and, with the terials to rebuild tissues that have been energy from sunlight, combine them with



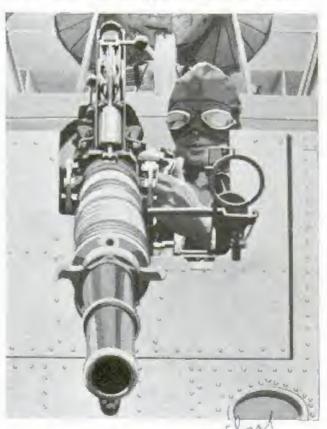
carbon dioxide and water to produce proteins. When you eat meat or spinach, the digestive fluids in your stomach immediately go to work on the proteins and break them down into amino acids. The blood stream distributes them to all parts of

(Continued to page 124A)



Top, bottling and labeling an acid. Bottom, left, one kind of amino acid closely resembles a diamond in shape. Right, purified 1-leucine, which sells for about \$400 per pound

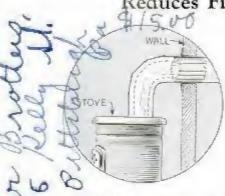
Quick-FiringAerialCannon Latest Weapon for Fliers



Aerial gunner is shown training a new type cannon developed for English aircraft

In Europe's rush to rearm, many new weapons are being developed for warfare on the ground, in the air and on the sea. Among them is a quick-firing aerial cannon for England's flying fighters. The cannon is manned from the cockpit of aircraft. It is expected to find wide use in the 400 new fighting planes which England is adding to her air force.

Furnace Smoke-Pipe Jacket Reduces Fire Hazard



By covering furnace smoke pipes or stovepipes with a galvanized steel jacket and sleevebuilding owners can reduce fire hazards materially. An air space between the jack-

et and the smoke pipe prevents overheating. When smoke pipes become corroded and rust through, the jacket prevents

sparks from escaping. The jacket also at fords protection in buildings where smoke pipes have been installed so close to wooden joists and flooring that there is danger of fire from overheating.

Paper Fastener "Welds" Sheets between Corrugated Dies

Using no pins or staples, a paper fastener just put on the market binds the sheets together by pressing them between corrugated dies. The device weighs less than two pounds and is op-

401



erated simply by pressing a hand lever. It forms a strong enough adhesion to be used for closing leaflets or envelopes for mailing.

Enlarger for Home Movie Film Requires No Darkroom

No darkroom is necessary for making enlargements from sixteen-millimeter motion-picture film with the compact enlarger just announced. Enlarged negatives can be made in a few seconds from either black-and-white or color film, and so simple is the process that error is almost impossible. The device resembles an ordinary folding camera, but in place of the usual

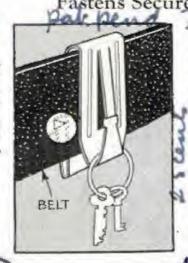


Movie film is locked in gate at front of enlarging camera and photoflood projects image on roll film

POPULAR MECHANICS

front lens is a film gate where the movie film is locked over the particular frame to be enlarged. For the average picture, a five-second exposure would produce a good negative on supersensitive panchromatic film with the light of a photoflood lamp held five inches from the film gate. Since the enlarger is loaded with eight negatives in a roll, each picture two and one-half by three and three-eighths inches, immediate processing of the enlarged negatives is unnecessary.

Safety Catch for Keys or Watch Fastens Securely on Belt



(dw)

Key ring or watch chain can be held securely on a safety catch just invented. It is made of spring steel, and, once clamped on your belt or the edge of a pocket, it stays. The ring can be slipped on or off with one hand.

Tiny Life Preserver Inflated by Squeezing One End

Weighing only six ounces, the latest life preserver is inflated by squeezing one end of a small rubber sack. The pressure and heat act on chemicals instantly, releasing buoyant gas. The preserver will keep the average person affoat for sixteen hours.



Swimmers supported in water by life preservers weighing only six ounces

Slotted Ring on the Tripod Holds Camera at Angle



Adjustment of two thumbscrews on slotted ring allows camera to be mounted on tripod at any angle

By simply mounting a slotted ring on top of your camera tripod, you can take pictures at any angle, vertical or horizontal. The ring is four inches in diameter, weighs four ounces and easily fits into your pocket. Two thumbscrews fasten it to the tripod and the camera at the desired angle,

Blades Replace Glass Globe in Latest Street Lamp

Reflecting blades replace the glass globe in the latest street lamp. With the light bulb inserted into the top of the lamp, the blades reflect light in all directions. Danger of breakage and the constant replacement of globes has been eliminated.

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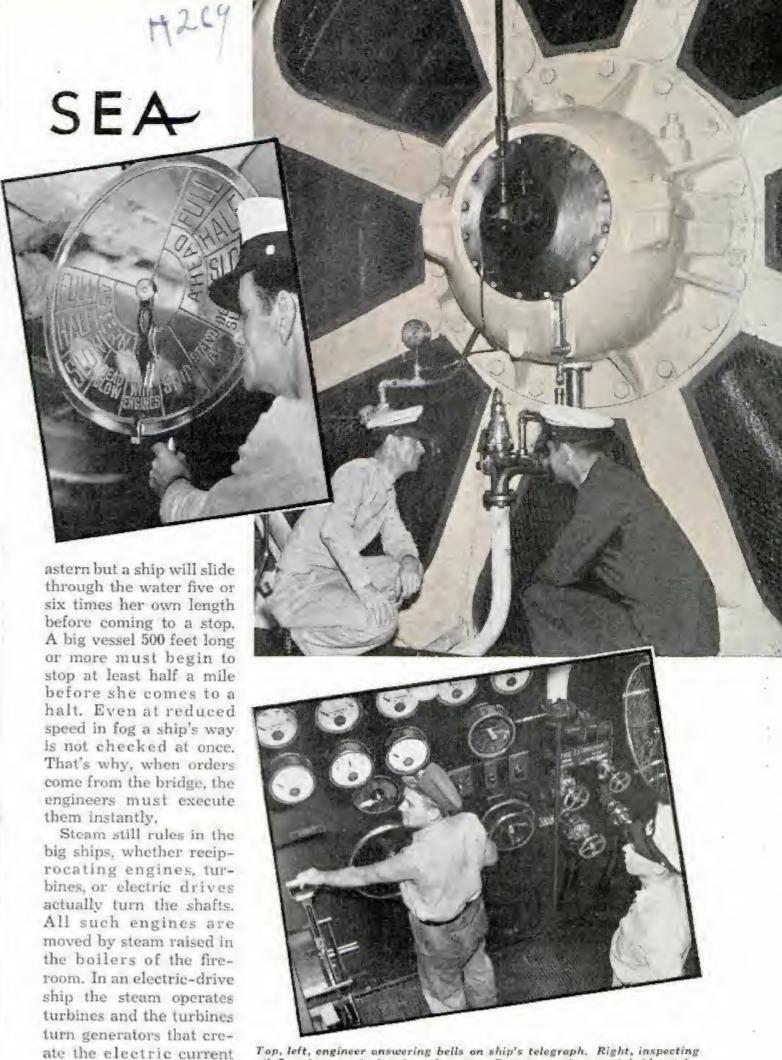
Removing heavy door from main condenser of ship's engine to inspect interior. Careful inspection frequently discloses trouble that might create an emergency at sea

L OOKOUTS at the bow, in the crow'snest and on the wings of the bridge
strain their eyes for hidden dangers when
a big ship steams along in the fog. Sound
as well as sight is crippled and the warning blasts of a near-by ship seem muffled
and far away.

Down in the humid heat of the engine room, the engineers are ready for any emergency command. The chief engineer gave the "stand by" order when the fog first closed down and now four men, instead of the customary two, are at the controls on the operating platform. Shutting down the big steam plant is a delicate job and when it has to be done in a hurry nothing must go wrong. Even at best, reversing the engines of a big liner at emergency speed is a nerve-racking ordeal. Chaos seems to take charge as the engines rumble and pound on their supports.

On the instant that the warning bell sets. up its clamor and the pointers on the brass telegraph dials swing to "Full Speed." Astern" the men at the throttle wheels spin them shut and open up the reversing throttles. The propeller shafts come to a full stop and then reverse. The great propellers start tearing at the water that is flowing past them. The strain of trying to check the momentum of 20,000 tons or more of ship, the bucking of the propellers as they thrash the water, make it seem as if the propellers are going to pull the engines from their bases. Steel floors buckle and vibrate. Metal columns jiggle. Motors and generators dance on their bases. Meanwhile every man below holds on to something solid, for the emergency command may mean that a collision is coming.

If takes only a second or two to spin the throttles from full speed ahead to full speed



Top, left, engineer answering bells on ship's telegraph. Right, inspecting oil flow from main bearing of motor. Bottom, engineers at bridge telegraph and throttles of electric liner

that in turn operates

Virginia Paulu



need half an hour to slow down and stop. The way to halt it at once without damage is to reverse the motor that the generator is driving. That heavy load is too much and the generator stops right then.

Such vital auxiliaries to the big

Such vital auxiliaries to the big engines as feed pumps and circulating pumps are installed in duplicate so that if one breaks down the other can be started up at once. Tons of spare bearings and other equipment are carried by all big ships so that repairs can be made at sea when necessary.

These days the tendency is to do most overhaul and repair work at shipyards where facilities for doing each job right are available. But in emergencies the engineers resort to ingenious ways to keep their engines going, even when there are not the proper spare

huge motors attached to the propeller shafts.

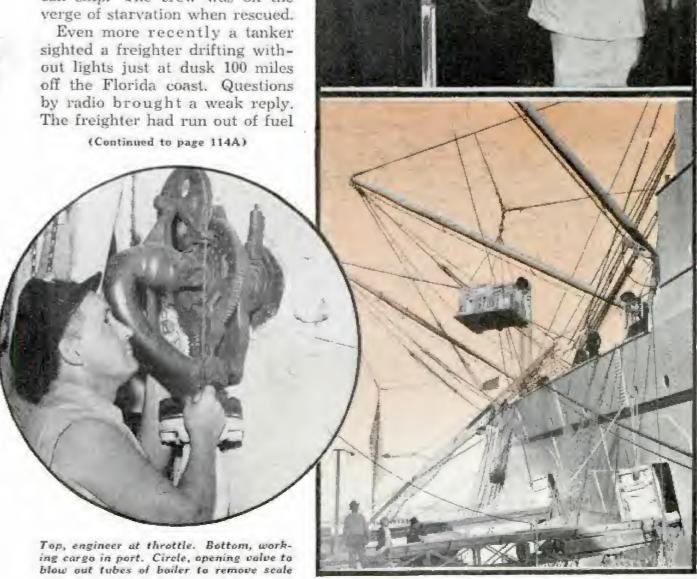
Each kind of power plant has its own problems. The first maxim of sea-going engineers is to prevent breakdowns and emergencies by scrupulous inspections. Trouble often can be caught before it actually happens. Usually the engines have to be stopped at once because a breakdown can become progressively worse if the engines keep turning. Reciprocating engines and turbines can be stopped by yanking the emergency steam trip but even when the turbine is stopped, the huge, perfectly balanced rotor of a big generator of an electric-drive plant keeps spinning at top speed. By itself it would

Top, watching gauge that shows condition of steam in different stages of big turbine. Circle, throwing switches that divert lighting circuits to stand-by generator. Right, engineers inspecting operation of small steam dynamo

parts on board. Strands of rope make a good hydraulic packing in a pinch. Babbitt metal poured into the grooves of a piston and smoothed off will serve for a while if the piston rings of a small steam dynamo fail. Properly supported, hard wood has been used as a piston head when the piston of a small steam engine shattered.

Few people ever heard of a ship running

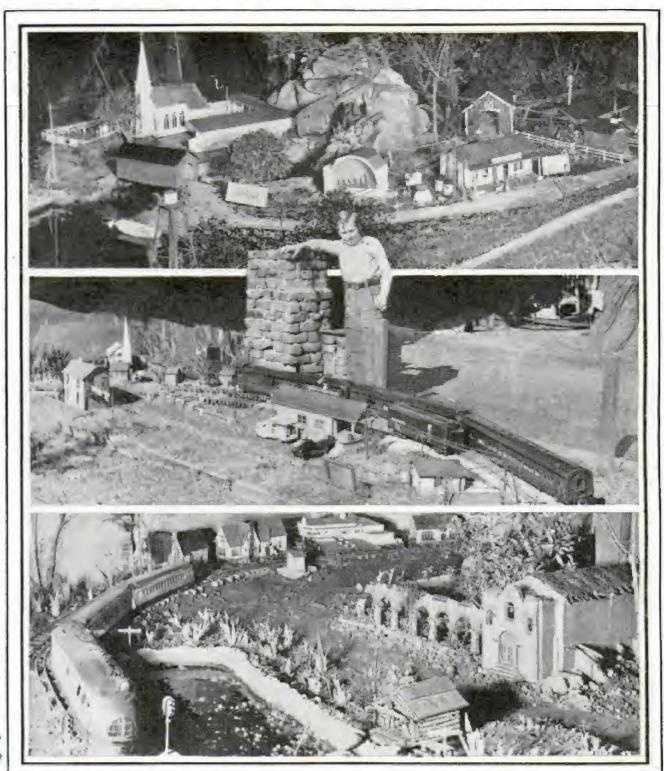
out of fuel at sea yet this has happened more often than you might think. Normally the chief engineer puts more than enough fuel on board to last the length of the trip plus any emergency delays that could be expected. Not so many years ago a Chinese ship left port with enough coal for five days, more than enough for her three-day trip. But the chief engineer hadn't figured on fighting a steady storm. Rough weather ran up fuel consumption and with only a few miles to go the last shovelful of coal was thrown into the furnaces. The ship was within sight of her destination but she started to drift away. There was no wireless on board. Wind and current drifted the helpless vessel 1,000 miles in the next month, until she was sighted by an American ship. The crew was on the



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Old Home Town Returns to Life in Miniature



Top, model of old New England town as it was a generation ago, rebuilt in Californian's back yard. Center, western tank town, and below, miniature streamliner passes an old Spanish mission

Living again in miniature as it was twenty-five years ago is the old home town of H. R. Howard, a Pomona, Calif., resident who has reconstructed his former New England community as a model city in his back yard. A real forge in the tiny blacksmith shop sends smoke curling up the chimney, organ music (from a radio

set) emanates from a little church, flowing water turns the old mill wheel and a covered bridge crosses the stream. Whitewashed desks in the little red schoolhouse, buggies and surreys, sawmill and graveyard and bandstand all are reminiscent of the town a generation ago. The home town is but one of the scale model groups built

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by Mr. Howard as a hobby. There is also a western tank town with a gas-electric train operated by a one-fifth horsepower motor, obeying automatic signals. Every chair and table is in its proper place inside the tiny buildings; real miniature trees and green grass, cut by shears, add to the landscape. There is a "ghost town" with an old stagecoach in front of the crumbling general store. Streamline trains roll past models of the old Spanish missions and modern California homes. The railway cars, buildings and streets are all lighted, producing a striking effect at night. Even the several trains on the miniature railroad are furnished, the club and chair cars done in leather, blue corduroy, red plush and imitation walnut; a dining car, with two tables set for dinner, has kitchen, pantry and four real refrigerators storing ice, and a motor fans air over the ice to cool the dining section. Air pressure delivers water to a shower in the observationbuffet car. The observation room is finished in walnut and green plush and one stateroom bed is made up for the night.

"Bird's-Eye" View of Target Seen through Bomber's Floor



Lying prone in nose of British training craft, bomb operator sights his target through a window in the floor

From a window in the nose of Britain's "Oxford" training bomber the crew has a veritable "war bird's-eye" view of the target. The window is used for bomb sighting, the bomb operator lying prone and training his eyes on the objective.

Mirrors Trace Car Vibrations and Help Eliminate Source

Through an arrangement of mirrors inside a portable deflection indicator, Cadil-

Tracing vibrations in automobile by means of small deflection indicator

lac engineers can locate sources of vibration in automobiles. A mirror is attached to the needle in the barrel of the instrument which registers the reflection of a beam of light on a second, eight-sided mirror. The second mirror revolves at high speed so that the light beam plots curve against a transparent screen on the face of the indicator. Any deflection or vibration by the automobile part under test is exaggerated 250 times on the screen. A typical test is that for vibrations on an air cleaner. Readings with the instrument on vertical and horizontal planes disclose the direction of the vibration, and further similar tests reveal the source. The instrument is used in precision manufacturing, being employed to test parts. Minor flaws in the weight of rotating parts destroy balance and create major vibrations.

motor Can

Transatlantic 'Flying Wing' to Offer Luxury





Cut-away drawing indicates ample accommodations in twin fuselages and wings for 120 passengers. This is the superliner proposed by Maj. Alexander P. de Seversky for transatlantic travel. Below are the lounge-observation room in leading edge of "flying wing," affording direct view ahead for passengers, and control room in central gondola

aboard a super-clipper planned for transatlantic service will offer new luxury in air travel. The huge plane, literally a flying wing, will have dining saloon and promenade in two sections, each connected by a cocktail lounge and an observation deck. Observation windows in the leading edge of the wing will afford an excellent forward view. The two sections will have comfortable accommodations for fifty people, so that meals may be served quickly. The clipper is designed to carry a pay load of 43,000 pounds and to accommodate 120 passengers, A crew of sixteen will operate the great craft, which will have a cruising range of more than 5.000 miles and a minimum cruising speed of 250 miles per hour. Supercharging will permit flight at high altitude. Passengers will be housed in the 250-foot wing, which is large enough to afford particularly spacious quarters. Attached to this wing will be two

large fuselages or outriggers for housing retractable landing pontoons and supporting the tail surfaces. Hydraulic mechanism of the pontoons will perform the dual function of a retractable device and a shock absorber, so that the ship will be able to weather seas that would be disastrous to the conventional flying boat. Eight engines will propel the plane. The control room will be situated in the central gondola, permitting full view for captain and pilots and affording ample working space on the bridge for radio officer, navigation officer, captain, first officer and chief engineer. Plans for the super-clipper have been submitted by Major Alexander P. de Seversky to Pan American Airways, Major de Seyersky recently was granted patents on an ingenious method for simultaneously slowing the landing speed of a plane and for increasing the lift of its wings. The method calls for ports to be placed near the leading edge of the wing and to be connected with suction ports on the under side of the wing toward the rear. Suction thus created simultaneously slows the ship and cuts turbulence on the upper side of the wing, thus increasing lift. The invention may solve the probdem of how to slow extremely high landing speeds of military aircraft.

Watch to Fit Side of Wrist Gives Quick View of Dial

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So curved that it is worn on the side, instead of the back, of the wrist, the latest watch for men affords full view of the dial without the usual turning of the arm. Tests indicate that it is subject to less bumping and scratching than wrist watches worn in the ordinary manner.



Wrist watch with patented curved movement is worn on side of wrist, protected from jars and scratches

Wood-Burner Drives a Car 100 Miles for Half Dollar



Boiler rack is mounted in place of trunk on rear of this economical wood-burning French automobile

Instead of a trunk rack, the French minister of agriculture has a boiler rack on his wood-burning automobile. Because of the high cost of gasoline in Europe, manufacturers are constantly experimenting with other fuels, such as wood, charcoal and coal. This car travels 100 miles on fuel costing fifty cents, and is said to be capable of the same speed as gasoline cars.

Abrasive Disk Glued on Wheel Can Be Used Immediately

Abrasive disks made of paper or cloth may be applied with a fast-drying glue which does not require clamping. The wheel can be used immediately after applying the disk and glue. The glue



is brushed on both the disk and metal wheel, but when removed the glue adheres only to the worn disk.

Send return postage to our Bureau of Information to learn the name of the maker of any device described in this magazine.

Bucket Held on Slant Roof by Adjustable Legs



Working on a gable roof, the painter adjusts the legs of bucket holder to keep the can level

No matter what the angle of roof or ladder, there is a paint-bucket holder that will keep the can level and steady. When the bucket is needed on a slanting roof, the adjustable legs extend downward on the outer edge like the props of a mountainside cabin. It will perch on chimney top or ladder equally well, and is adaptable to paint cans of four sizes.

Meter Tests Washed Negatives to Detect Any Hypo Left



If photographic prints are to keep their original brilliance and not turn yellow, the hypomust be washed off thoroughly during the developing process. A "detector" just brought out will show the presence

of one part of hypo in 10,000 parts of water and thus assure clean negatives. The drippings from negatives or prints are poured into a graduate or glass tube and the test electrode immersed in the liquid. The meter instantly indicates the amount of hyporemaining in the water.

Food Cans with a Silver Lining Deal Death to Germs

Tin cans with a silver lining soon may be used by the food-packing industry. Silver-lined cans would have an added safety value because of the germ-killing property of silver. The research division of the national Bureau of Standards has developed a can that could be produced at relatively low cost. Twelve-ounce solder-less containers have been produced from silver clad copper and steel sheets, the base metal being twelve-thousandths of an inch thick with a silver coating one-thousandth inch thick.

Derrick Drills City Sidewalk to Reach Water

Set up on the street in a busy southern city, a small oil derrick recently was used to drill through the sidewalk to reach water. Installation of an air-cooling system in a bank near by made necessary the drilling of a well to obtain a water supply.



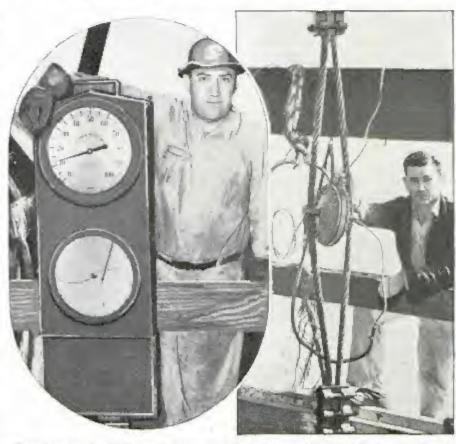
Here is a derrick set up in a busy city street
to drill for water

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Hydraulic Dial Shows Pressure on Oil Drill

Sensitive to every change in pressure as the bit sinks into hard or vielding rock strata far underground, a hydraulic weight recorder invented by an oil worker in California permits the well driller to keep constant watch on the course of his drill. If pressure on the bit is not relaxed when the bit encounters a tough layer of rock it may slant off on the line of least resistance. By watching the dial of the automatic recorder the operator can lessen pressure when needed and let the bit continue to bore straight down. The inventor connected a drumlike device to a steel line fastened stationary at the derrick end, and connected to the well pipe

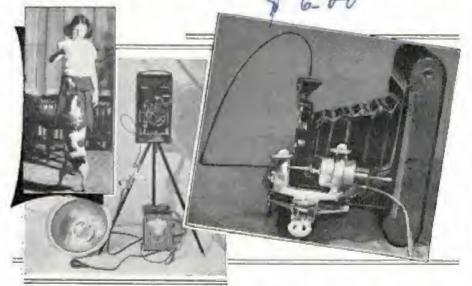
and drilling tools. Tension on the steel line compresses the drum, which contains a hydraulic system, and fluid is forced through a tube to the gauge located at the drill controls. By recording the weight of the suspended pipe, drilling bits, etc., in



Tension on steel line and drum, right, is transmitted by hydraulic line to dial at left which shows pressure on drill in all well

the well hole the degree of pressure exerted by the drill bit on the rock can be determined. The more resistance met, the less weight is recorded. The inventor expects to adapt the device to weight-recording machines in other lines of industry.

Synchronizer for Photo Flash Is Adapted to Any Camera



Synchronizer, shown attached to ordinary folding camera at right, trips shutter and flash bulb simultaneously as electric circuit is closed

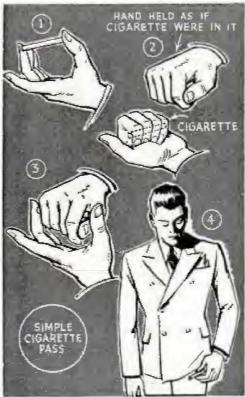
Adaptable to practically any camera, a synchronizer just offered makes it possible for the amateur photographer to time his flashlight and his shutter simultaneously by closing an electric circuit. It is easily attached, weighs only ten ounces and can be operated by battery or house current. Synchronizer and flash bulbs are put in the same circuit and neither can work without the other. A clamp holds the device

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Top to bottom at left, various steps in rising cigarette trick in which cigarette eventually disappears. Above, at right, pulling cigarettes out of the air and placing them in hat. Insets show props

By Claude Enslow

Professional Magicia

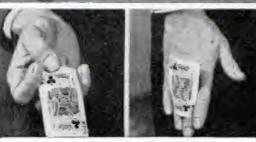
THE professional magician usually garnishes his card tricks with trimmings such as fans, flourishes, riffles and one-hand cuts. Although such movements may have no direct bearing on the tricks, they are spectacular, and by applying a few secrets of the professional, the amateur entertainer can dress up his own stunts.

Soaping a deck is a big aid in achieving dexterity because it makes the cards smoother and easier to handle. Dip a flannel cloth into fine powdered soap and rub both sides of each card. At first the cards may stick together but this tendency will disappear. By idly flipping the deck in spare moments, you will acquire digital nimbleness in a few weeks.

Variety is the spice of magic and even in impromptu exhibitions, you should strive for a wellbalanced program of card, rope, coin and cigarette tricks. Changing the color of a card is an excellent introductory stunt for any gathering. Holding the deck so spectators can see the top card, announce you are going to pass your right hand over the deck

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slowly to change the card's spots. You do this and then allow your right hand to drop to your side. By the rigid way in which you hold it the audience suspects you are concealing a card in it. When you feel certain the eyes of the crowd are glued upon it, turn your hand slowly to show it empty.

When performing this trick, make a few preliminary passes over the deck with your hand. When ready to change the color, place the thumb of your right hand behind the deck and your hand will naturally cover the deck just as it did on the preliminary gestures. It's a good idea to moisten your thumb. This will enable you to slip the card off the back and grip it between thumb and finger. Without any hesitancy take the card off the back and place it on the top. Then again bring your



Soaping cards to make them smoother. Top, close-up of the back palm, the basis for many disappearing card tricks, including the one illustrated in which the card disappears as it is passed back of the trouser leg of the magician



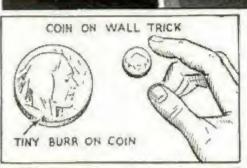
Above and right, start and finish of trick by which magician changes spots on card. Closeup shows how he does it. Below, burr makes coin stick to wall. Bottom, how coin is passed through a hole of smaller diameter

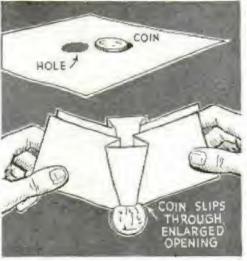
hand slowly over the deck as you did at first. Be deliberate about dropping your hand to your side to arouse the spectators' suspicions. Practice in front of a mirror until you fool yourself. Then you are ready to perform it.

Go into your second trick by accidentally dropping one card from the pack. When you stoop to pick it up, pass it back and forth behind your trouser leg as if you were trying to rub it into the calf of your leg. The card vanishes and you show both sides of your hand to prove it is gone. A simple back-palm is the basis of this stunt. A half hour spent in its mastery will be amply rewarded as palming of this type enters into many tricks.

In picking up the card, hold it between the two middle fingers and thumb of your right hand with the former bent down so the two nails are against the back of the card, the thumb holding it from the opposite side. While the "rubbing in" is being done, the first and little fingers grip the card so as to curve it. When the hand is opened the card goes to the back, revolving between the first and fourth fingers as though on an axis. As the card







is now on the back of the hand, the palm is shown to be empty and then the whole body wheels to the left in a sweeping motion. Pivoting on your left foot, turn your right leg over to show it to your audience. While doing this your right hand goes quickly to the pack to place the card on it. The spectators do not see you do this because your body is turned away from them, and besides, their attention is riveted on the back of your leg where they think the card is concealed. After depositing the card on the deck, the right hand comes back and brushes across

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the trouser leg to show the card has vanished. This time, both sides of the hand can be shown.

The rising cigarette is a clever stunt. An ordinary cigarette is held in the fingers of the left hand. The fingers are then closed over it and the hand is turned over so the back of it faces the audience and the cigarette is seen to rise slowly from the hand. You start to repeat the trick but the second time seem to encounter difficulty. When you open your hand the cigarette has disappeared. Here is the secret. As the cigarette is held in the fingers of the left hand the right hand closes them over it. The left hand is then turned over with the fingers of the right hand being held to conceal the movement of the left-hand thumb as it pushes the cigarette upward.

On your second attempt, the start is the same but as the fingers

are being closed over the cigarette, it is gripped by the second finger and heel of the right hand. The left hand is turned over, leaving the cigarette in the right hand. While you are showing your empty left hand, your right hand can "discover" the cigarette under someone's coat.

Picking cigarettes out of thin air is spectacular but requires very little skill. As you pick the cigarettes out of the air you place them in a hat then distribute them among the crowd. The secret of this trick is a fake "cigarette" that is placed on the back of the second finger. This fake can be cut from a tin can, soldered, and then painted. The "cigarette," about two inches long, should be painted flat white. The clamp should be flesh color. Another variation is to solder a pin on a clamp, then slip a cigarette onto it.

(Continued to page 132A)





Details of "spooky knots" trick, top, in which a rope appears to tie knots in itself. Below, a trimming of magic—a riffle. Inset shows start of the riffle

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Air Is Analyzed at Bridge for Its Effect on Paint



Four-cup fan pumps sample of air into bottle of distilled water for analysis of elements

Because of its effect on paint, engineers are testing the air "breathed" by the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge. Just below the lower deck of the bridge at one of its towers they have mounted a four-blade cup vane fan which turns in the wind, operating a pump that sucks air into a bottle of distilled water. For every thirty fan revolutions the pump turns once, scooping up seventy-five cubic centimeters of air. When the pump counter shows 99,999 revolutions the bottle is sealed and sent to a laboratory for analysis of the air sample. Tests have disclosed sulphates, salt, coffee chaff, soot and other elements in the air.

"Electric Eye" Counts Ballots and Guards against Stuffing

There's no stuffing of the ballot box when the "electric eye" is on guard. An automatic count of ballots by means of a photoelectric cell was employed during an election at a recent Chicago bowling meet. A vote was registered each time the light

beam was broken as a ballot dropped into the box. Even if several ballots had been stuffed in at once, only one would have been counted. To falsify the vote, a person would have had to drop extra ballots in separately, and election officials could easily detect that.

Puşh-Button Electric Jacks Speed Up Tire Changes

Designed for permanent installation on the automobile, electric jacks speed up tire changes. A push button on the dash sets the jacks in motion and they automatically raise the car to a height that gives ample ground clearance for changing a flat tire. Pressing the same button restores the jack to driving position. The system contains two jacks, one on each side, and the pushbutton unit. Only one jack can be operated at a time. Electrically operated like the self-starter, the jacks use approximately the same amount of current for raising the car twelve times as the starter does for starting the engine once.



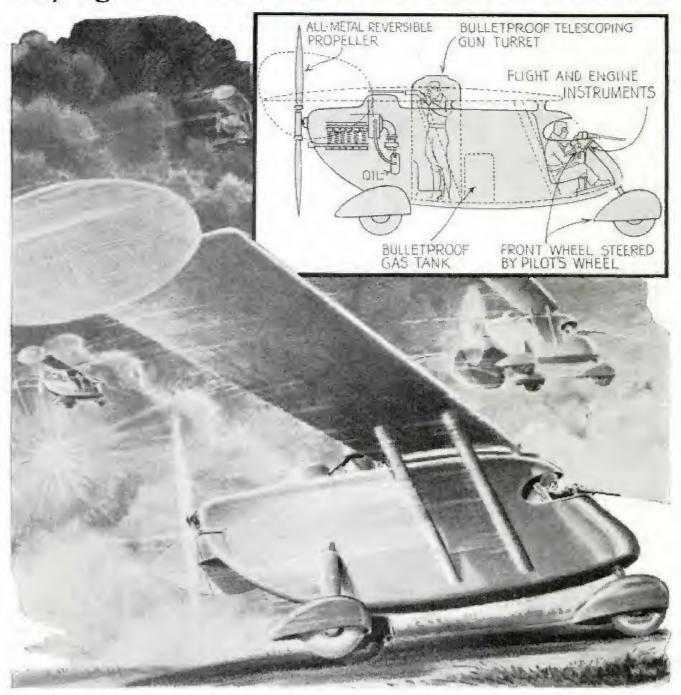
Two views of electric jack in use. Top, raising

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'Flying Tank' Is a Mobile Gun Nest on Land



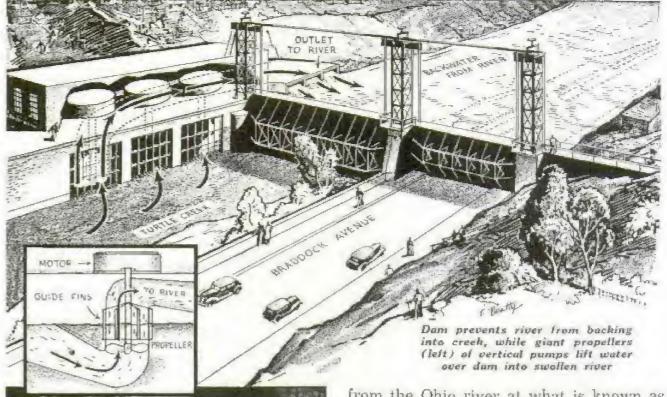
Ready to fight on land or in the sky, this two-gun craft can shed its wings in two minutes and take to road. Phantom drawing at top shows arrangement of cockpit, gun turret and removable wings

Detach the single V-shaped wing of the "flying tank" and you have a swift, mobile machine-gun nest whose reversible propeller can drive it seventy-five miles an hour in land-battle maneuvers. Plans for this versatile little fighter have been developed by Waldo Waterman, previously designer of a convertible airplane-automobile. In the air his flying tank would cruise at 160 miles an hour, spurt to 180, the pilot manning one machine gun from his steel-armored forward cockpit—engine and propeller are at the rear—while a sec-

ond gunner operates in a revolving, bulletproof gun turret. The plane could take off
or land in a small space. Its wing span is
only thirty-seven feet and the "capsule"
cockpit only fourteen feet four inches long.
A fleet of these tiny ships could land behind enemy lines, drop their wings in two
minutes and operate against land troops.
They could be stored compactly on an aircraft carrier and make swift raids against
inland cities, then return and stack their
wings below decks on the ship. The pilot's
wheel speers the front wheel on land.

anation Engineer, Santa homia Calif

"Upside-Down" Dam Cuts Floods in Middle



ESIGNED to protect the industrial valley of Turtle Creek against floods, a novel structure near Pittsburgh, Penna., is described by engineers as an upsidedown dam. As the result of preliminary tests, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company engineers expect the dam will be capable of pumping enough water out of the valley every twenty-four hours to fill a large city block to a height of 648 feet. The effectiveness of the dam depends upon its three giant vertical pumps to keep the flood waters of Turtle Creek flowing downstream, while two massive steel gates shut out water of the Monongahela river as it strives to back up

from the Ohio river at what is known as the "Point" at Pittsburgh. Actually it will cut two floods in the middle. First, the down-flooding water of Turtle Creek will be walled in; then, the backed-up water from the Monongahela will be walled out before it starts a counterattack up the valley. History has taught the engineers that about twenty-four hours after Turtle Creek has carried the crest of its own flood waters, it is piled back upon itself by the Monongahela, into which it flows about one and one-half miles below East Pittsburgh. With the gates closed during a flood, the pumps in the dam will quicken the flow of the creek through tunnels around the barricade. With the approach of the next flood, the larger of the steel gates, eighty feet long and thirty feet high, will be lowered across the creek. The smaller gate, forty feet long and twenty feet high, will close off Braddock avenue, which parallels the creek at the low point of the valley. Three ten-ton propellers will force the water around the east end of the dam through three tunnels large enough for a locomotive to pass through. Three 5,000-horsepower electric motors rotate the pumps 112 times a minute. Each motor is twenty-three feet in diameter. From the creek above the dam, the flood water will pour into three entrance ducts

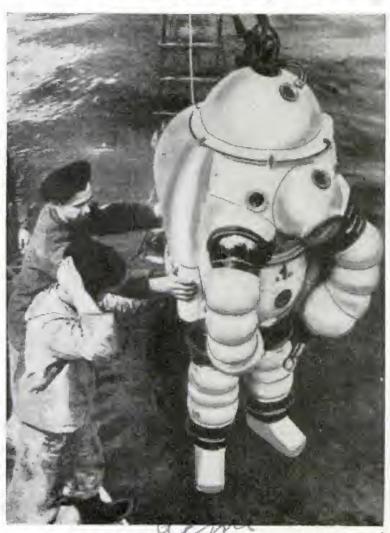
and rush down a sharp incline to pumping pits eleven feet below the creek's normal surface. The propellers will spin the water upward through vertical wells from which it will be deflected into horizontal chambers which permit the flow to expand gradually and reduce its velocity before it is emptied on the downstream side of the dam. A metal guide vane of four six-foot blades, placed above each pump, breaks up the stream of water into four paths to prevent eddies and increase the efficiency of the pumps. Each vane weighs 47,000 pounds. By first lifting the water up the pump shafts sixteen feet above the outlets, the pumps will create a siphoning effect, helping to pull additional flood water up through the chambers. The effect of the barricade will be that by pumping the flow beyond the gates, more water will be put into the Monongahela during the time its stage is rising, bringing the river to its crest a few minutes earlier than normally. The dam was built by Westinghouse as flood protection for its East Pittsburgh works.

Keyhole with 'Funnel' Face Guides Key to Opening

Fumbling at keyholes in the dark is a nuisance made unnecessary by a "funnel-faced" lock just invented. No matter where the key strikes the face, the inward that of the surface guides the key easily to its slot.



Diver Puts on 3,000 Pounds of Armor for Deep-Sea Trip



Encased in a 3,000-pound shell, diver is lowered for deep-sea test. The armor was designed to stand pressure 800 feet deep

Deep-sea fish living in the terrific pressure that exists 800 feet beneath the ocean surface are to be introduced to a grotesque new monster. A diver's suit of armor weighing a ton and a half has been invented by Cavalier Roberto Galeazzi of Italy and has met its tests successfully. Equipped with articulated limbs, it is designed for 800-foot descents—nearly double the depth previously reached by a diver—and thus opens a new and unknown field.

Rubber-Clad Hammer Absorbs Shock

Live rubber, surrounding the end of the handle
extending through the eye
of a new hammer absorbs
much of the shock resulting from blows with the
tool. Forced into place under pressure, the rubber is
held by special cement.



174

SECRETS of the



TWO uncanny feats of magic performed by a glasslike material called Rochelle, salt crystal rank this man-made substance ' as one of the world's modern wonders and also as one of its great mysteries.

This "singing" crystal which is "grown" by a chemical process not only does two astonishing things, but does both of them about one thousand times better than any other known material. First of all, if squeezed or placed under strain, it becomes electrified, instantly converting the pressure into a corresponding amount of electrical energy.

Twisting or bending such a crystal, for example, may produce enough electricity to cause a neon tube to glow and even produce a very small jump spark in the air. Thus the crystal is a generator. But that is not all. If it is electrically charged, it just as quickly changes the electrical energy into mechanical motion by vibrat-

Sound-cell "mikes," bottom, in use in auditorium. Topy-left, girl wearing crystal headphone for hard of hearing in theater. Right, high output sound-cell microphone, lapel "mike" and crystal heart-beat pickup 3311 Perkins are. Cleveland Chief

"SINGING CRYSTALS"



ing or twisting or bending. Hence it then becomes a driver or sort of crystal motor.

Why this particular substance can instantly change pressure into electricity, or transform electrical energy into mechanical energy, no one knows exactly. But in its raw state, the crystal is soluble in water and melts at 165 degrees, so one theory is that the material is so unstable that even a little pressure, as from sound waves, causes the molecules to slide over each other and build up an electrical charge.

While the reason it reacts in this way is a mystery, the fact that it does has enabled man to harness its unusual properties and put the crystal to work at dozens of tasks, some of them as unusual as the remarkable traits of the crystal itself—tasks like detecting the presence of insect pests by the faint noise they make in a field, and making a visual record of human heart beats. But perhaps the widest and most unusual application of all is in radio.

Almost as amazing as radio itself is the



role played by a few bits of this substance sealed in the heart of the modern crystal microphone and headphone. When an opera singer hits C above high C, you actually hear the note over your radio a brief instant before the sound reaches the ears of her audience because radio waves outrun sound waves.

But before you hear her voice, the sound energy must be changed to electrical energy, the electrical energy must be amplified and transmitted through space, and your receiver must convert it back to sound—all in a split-second. The beginning and end of this nearmiracle, changing sound waves into electricity, then reversing the process, is accomplished in the twinkling of an eye, in the case of the crystal "mike" and headphone, by some little "sandwiches" of Rochelle salt crystal.

The magic properties of this crystal have been known for years but until recent times no one knew how to harness them and put them to work. A century before the Revolutionary war, an apothecary at Rochelle, France, obtained a powdery substance, sodium potassium tartrate, from a chemical solution. It was used for medicinal purposes like Epsom salts and came to be known as Rochelle salts.

A century passed, then someone found that certain substances, if subjected to pressure or strain, develop electric voltages on opposing surfaces. Such materials are said to have piezoelectric activity. Another century passed, during which this phenomenon was considered as little more than a scientific curiosity. Then, in 1880, the Curies of radium fame measured the piezoelectric activity of some thirty substances.

Quartz crystals, they found, possessed this property to a greater extent than any other natural product. But man-made crystals of Rochelle salt, they discovered, were about one thou-





Apparatus, top, for calibrating and testing microphones. Center, sound-cell mounting in microphone. Bottom, measuring bending and torsional strains with aid of crystals and pen recorder

sand times more active than quartz. They also learned that the electric potential between opposing surfaces varied with the pressure and established that, in accordance with the law of the conservation of energy, any substance which generates electricity in response to mechanical motion will act conversely, transforming electrical energy into mechanical energy.

Roentgen, who developed the X-ray, predicted that pressure electricity would some day be applied in the field of acoustics but it was never used for any practical purpose until the World War.

At that time a brilliant Frenchman harnessed piezoelectric devices with vacuumtube amplifiers to aid in locating submarines through supersonic water vibrations. The submarine detector demonstrated that the same idea could be applied in the audible range. But crystals then produced were unsatisfactory for pressure electrical devices. They were not clear and uniform and their properties varied with temperature, among other things.

After years of research, the Brush Development company of Cleveland, O., finally evolved a patented chemical process for growing clear glasslike crystals of

(Continued to page 118A)

Model of First Steamboat Built Is Older than Fulton's Ship

Although Robert Fulton's steamship was the first of its kind to be commercially successful, it was not the first steamer. In the American Philosophical Society rooms in Philadelphia is the original model of the steamship built by John Fitch in 1785, credited with being the original steamship. Fulton's boat went into operation in 1807, and even before that an English inventor, William Symington, had constructed a steamship.



Original model of the first steamship, built in 1785 by John Fitch. Notice side paddles on belt

Fire Blanket Unrolls Like Shade to Wrap Flaming Clothes



Worker saves himself from flames by wrapping in emergency blanket, which unrolls from wall bracket

Unrolling like a window shade hung on the wall vertically, an emergency fire blanket is always ready to smother flames. If a workman's clothes catch fire, he can wrap himself snugly in the blanket with a twist of his body, without help from others. It can be used, too, to extinguish small fires and protect persons who are forced to run through flames.

Quick-Drying Stamp-Pad Ink Reduces Blurring

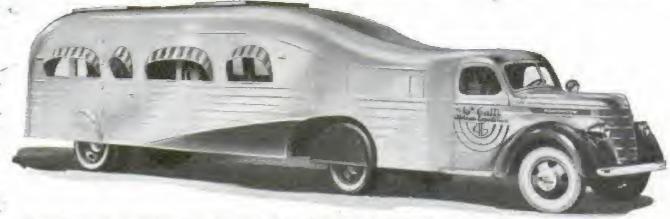
Impressions made with a new stamp-pad ink dry so rapidly that they may be rubbed with the fingers immediately with little or no blurring. One pad filled with the ink was in steady use for three months with only one re-inking, in spite of the fact that the pad box was left open most of the time. The ink did not lose its property of drying quickly. A special organic liquid in the ink is much less volatile than water explaining its unusual properties.

Walter Home

436 antimalemal Harvester 4

POPULAR MECHANICS

Explorer Rides Stainless Steel "Jungle Yacht"



One of two air-conditioned, stainless steel truck-trailers built for Congo expedition. It includes lounge, library, observation-dining room, bedrooms, tile bath with full-length tub and electric kitchen

Comforts, even luxuries, of home are offered the explorer in two stainless steel "jungle yachts" which Commander Attilio Gatti will use in a trip through Africa. The vehicles are powered by truck engines. Each is a roomy, streamline trailer, carefully insulated, fitted with a variety of custom-built refinements and air-conditioned. Appointments include two bedrooms, bathroom with full length tub in black tile, living room and observation dining room, with library and bar, and electric kitchen. Two-way radio with sixty-mile range provides for intercommunication. Protection is provided against wild-

animal assault, while screening and insulation guard against heat, cold, humidity, insects and the pollen of certain tropical flowers which cause deadly fevers. Overall length is forty feet. Commander Gatti also will use a station wagon and two supply trucks on his expedition. One of the trucks is a one-ton unit with special platform top for motion-picture work. It also will pull a photographic laboratory trailer. The expedition will make surveys, gather material and study itineraries for further colonial development of the Congo country; gather rare animals, and take still, motion and color pictures.

Camera in Reflector Window Takes Shadowless Picture



Camera shoots through window of four-bulb reflector

For color photography and other work demanding flat, shadowless lighting, a light reflector with a window at its center has been developed. The camera is mounted on a platform so that it can peer through the window from directly behind the light source. The reflector accommodates four light bulbs. The platform is adjustable to fit any camera, and tilts for angle shots.

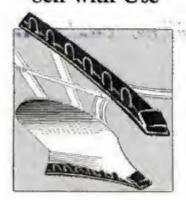
Spotting Planes by Television Is Tested in England

Use of television receivers as "spotters" of airplanes is in the test stage in England, and secret research is under way in the United States to find other ways of spotting airplanes than by the present sound-detection methods. Since television broadcasts have been in progress over London, it has been noted that when airplanes are

flying in the vicinity, "ghost" images are produced in the receivers. These ghosts are caused by reflection of the television waves from the metal-airplane surfaces, according to technicians. Thus, the reflected waves arrive at the television receivers at a slightly different time than the ordinary waves. The result is a dual image of the scene being transmitted. The image of the plane is not received. The displacement of the ghost image has been correlated with the distance of the plane from the television receivers and a system has been worked out whereby television receivers on England's coast could spot approach-

'Slip-On' Plowshare Edge Sharpens Self with Use

ing planes in time of war.



It takes but a few minutes to put a new edge on the plowshare now, for a "slip-on" edge of durable steel is available to fit over any general purpose plowshare. The edge stays sharp until worn out, its design making the blade self-sharpening with use. It tightens with use, too, and will not pull loose even when backing.

Building Model Trolley Cars for Home Electric Railway



"Early American" trolley cars, including some of the obsolete open types, are among the collection of this New York model builder

Building, operating and collecting all types of model trolley cars is the hobby of a New Yorker, one which he finds fascinating and practical. Smaller space is required for the trolley cars than for model trains, due to the fact that each car operates as a unit. The collector-builder warns that once the model maker becomes interested in the little cars, he becomes an ardent operator and collector. He finds it fascinating to watch the miniature trolley poles pick up current as they slide along the overhead wire and to observe other phases of operation. He also finds the construction of old-fashioned and modern cars thoroughly interesting.

Rifle Shell Warns of Fire in Airplane Engine

245 00

Warning of the outbreak of fire in the airplane engine, the latest detector unit employs a blank twenty-two caliber rifle shell. The explosion of the shell lights a signal on the instrument panel and sounds an electric alarm. Severalshells are mounted at strategic points about the engine and attached to tubes leading to the instrument panel. Flame or heat of 250 degrees will fire the shell, causing the alarm to sound. The pilot then releases a container of carbondioxide gas which envelops the engine, snuffing out the fire.

The series of th

POPULAR MECHANICS Cyaletel

Brick House Sawed in Two to Insulate against Damp



After sawing out one layer of mortar with crosscut saw, copper sheet is inserted for insulation

When an old brick house in Alexandria, Va., began to suffer from "old age," its bricks and mortar drawing moisture up from the earth like a wick and thus threatening the woodwork with decay, an architect and builder decided to saw it in two to save it. A crosscut saw was used to saw out the mortar between two layers of bricks near the ground, and sheet copper was inserted in the joints for insulation. The house had no basement. The slight clearance remaining after insertion of the copper strips was closed by letting the building settle, which involved no injury to the structure above.

Hose Coupling Attached Quickly by Pressing a Lever



Ease of coupling garden hose to the faucet is a feature of a new hose connector. By pressing a lever, the connector firmly couples the two parts together,

saving time and providing a non-leak connection. The connector consists of two parts, one of which is attached permanently to the faucet and the other to the hose. When the two are brought together, the lever locks them in place quickly.

Prism Reflectors Outline Road with "Fence of Light" at Night

Prismatic reflectors mounted on posts set at 100-foot intervals make driving safer at night along U. S. Highway 16 between Detroit and Lansing, Mich. They form a "fence of light," visible far ahead, etching the outline of the road and its hills and curves against the darkness. Three reflectors made of the plastic "Lucite" are investabled on each post. They are clear, flexible, non-shattering and highly reflective.

Boat Paint Resists Growths and Is Easy to Apply

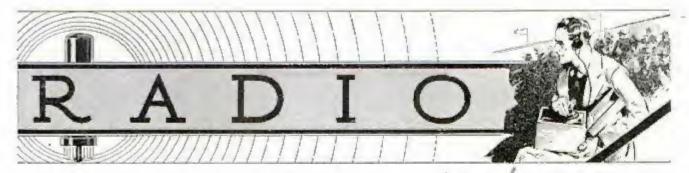
1306

Unusual protection against marine growths is afforded by a boat bottom paint which brushes on as easily as grease. The paint is virtually free of the disagreeable odors usually found in such mixtures. It never settles out hard, but remains a soft, mushy mass in the bottom of the can, easily stirred into complete suspension.





Two photographs compare boat bottoms; one at top is painted with resistant liquid



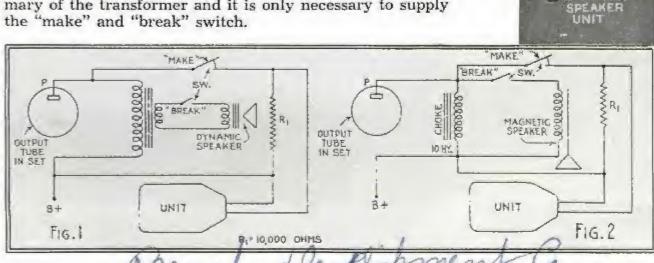
PILLOW SPEAKER for bed, chair or couch

PERHAPS you often have denied yourself the pleasure of listening to some favorite radio program because others near you were not interested. This thin pillow speaker is a high-impedance, voltage-operated crystal device intended to be used with most any radio receiver, particularly the portable or personal A.C.-D.C. sets. Patients in homes or hospitals can

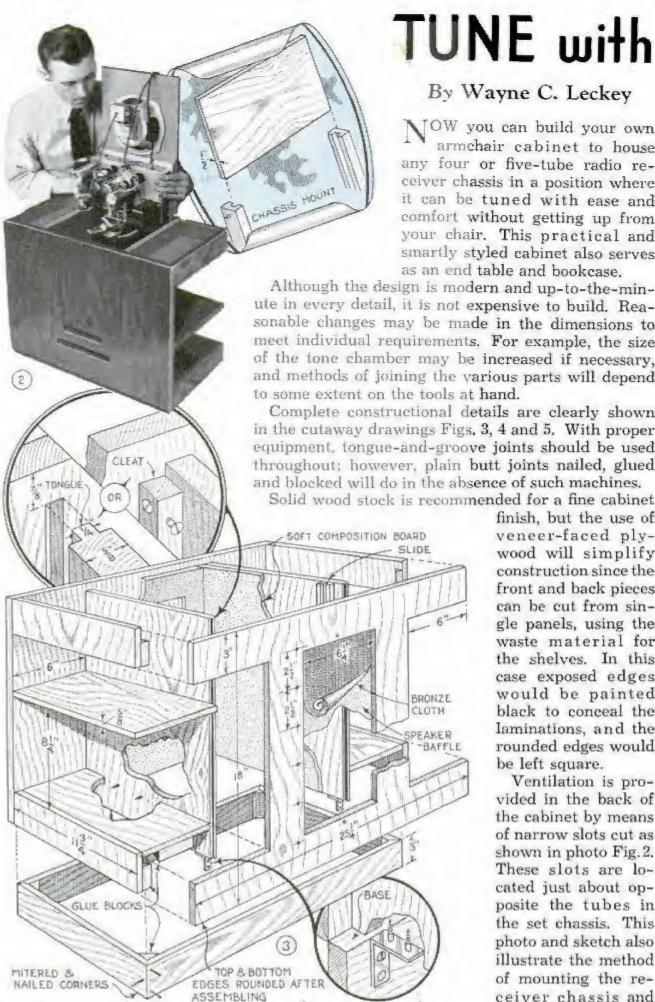
each enjoy their own radio programs without disturbing others and need no longer use uncomfortable headphones.

A few simple connections are necessary to install the unit; if your set employs a speaker of the dynamic type, follow the connections indicated in Fig. 1, or, if a magnetic speaker is used, connect as shown in Fig. 2. In either case a switch is required which "breaks" the speaker circuit and "makes" the "pillow-speaker" circuit simultaneously. With a magnetic speaker, a plate-circuit choke coil of about 10 henries must be used. If the set employs an electrodynamic or permanent-magnet type of speaker with a conventional output transformer, the speaker unit is connected across the primary of the transformer and it is only necessary to supply the "make" and "break" switch.





3311 Perking are of



TUNE with

By Wayne C. Leckey

OW you can build your own armchair cabinet to house any four or five-tube radio receiver chassis in a position where it can be tuned with ease and comfort without getting up from your chair. This practical and smartly styled cabinet also serves as an end table and bookcase.

Although the design is modern and up-to-the-minute in every detail, it is not expensive to build. Reasonable changes may be made in the dimensions to meet individual requirements. For example, the size of the tone chamber may be increased if necessary, and methods of joining the various parts will depend to some extent on the tools at hand.

Complete constructional details are clearly shown in the cutaway drawings Figs. 3, 4 and 5. With proper equipment, tongue-and-groove joints should be used throughout; however, plain butt joints nailed, glued and blocked will do in the absence of such machines.

> finish, but the use of veneer-faced plywood will simplify construction since the front and back pieces can be cut from single panels, using the waste material for the shelves. In this case exposed edges would be painted black to conceal the laminations, and the rounded edges would be left square.

> Ventilation is provided in the back of the cabinet by means of narrow slots cut as shown in photo Fig. 2. These slots are located just about opposite the tubes in the set chassis. This photo and sketch also illustrate the method of mounting the receiver chassis and

COMFORT an armchair cabinet that you can build

speaker. The semicircular fins forming the speaker grille appear in photo Fig. 6; these are simply lathe-turned disks shaped as indicated in Fig. 7, and cut in half by tacking to a straight edge as shown in Fig. 8. The fins are equally spaced and fastened with small screws from the back. All material dimensions are given in Figs. 3, 4 and 5. Please note the over-all size of the framework, Fig. 4, is made to overlap the edge of the cabinet %s in. The inner

cuts of the molding are made with a circular saw before mitering to size and gluing. The outer cuts are then made to seat the frame snugly % in. down in the top of the cabinet. Before fastening in place with slim screws driven through the edge, suitable notches must be made in the front edge of the frame for the insertion of the narrow, chrome molding flanking the speaker grille.

A 1/4-in. fancy-figured panel equaling the size (Continued to page 137A)

CORNERS GLUED, NAILED & BLOCKED 99

o, Camden POPULAR MECHANICS

Cathode-Ray Tube for Visual Radio Set Testing



TO RECEIVER AND FOR

RADIO RECEIVER

TO 229 DETECTOR OUTPUT OF RECEIVER

100

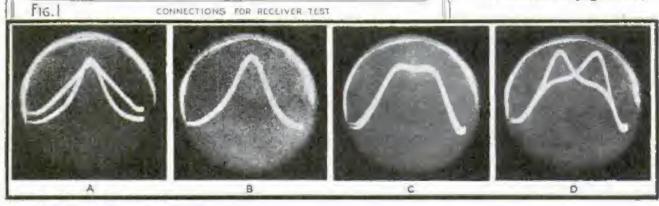
DERHAPS one of the most useful applications of the cathode-ray tube at the present time is the cathode-ray oscillograph for visual radio set testing. Servicemen and experimenters at first were slow in taking advantage of this modern method of radio trouble shooting. The early equipment was rather bulky and expensive but this is no longer a stumbling block in the

path of progress.

The RCA type-913 all-metal cathoderay tube, having a fluorescent screen about one inch in diameter, provided a lowvoltage tube that made a comparatively low-cost portable oscillograph practical and the serviceman can now see what he is doing thus eliminating much of the guesswork and former cut-and-try methods commonly employed. With this modern "X-ray" of radio the operator can not only line up receivers visually but also actually see distortion and hum. For example, photo A at lower left shows what can happen when an I.F. amplifier is alined with an output meter; photo B indicates the proper alinement obtainable with the oscillograph. The proper alinement of an amplifier that is overcoupled, showing a broad peak, appears in photo C. When seeking for the results illustrated in C with an output meter you are quite likely to peak the transformers at different frequencies, as clearly shown in photo D.

> Progressive servicemen can make convincing demonstrations to customers, and experimenters and students can develop special circuits and have a visual record of their progress, by learning to

(Continued to page 134A)



CATHODE-RAY OSCILLOGRAP

CATHODE-RAY TUBE

Practical UGGESTION Miniature tubes with octal bases, for use in compact receivers; these "bantam" tubes measure 11/4 in. in diameter and from 21/4 to 31/4 in. over-all. Characteristics same as larger glass types Right, homemade electric drill made from sewingmachine motor, dime-store chuck and suitable thrust bearings. Grip may be of wood or metal; will handle up to ¼-in. drill in brass Below, handy method for mounting a.c. toggle switch on transformer; makes husky shakeproof mounting for small power-pack assembly or similar experimental hook-up BRASSISTRIP SCREWED TO SIDE ANT. LEAD TO GND, POST TOGGLE OF TRANSFORMER SWITCH SOUDFRED GROUND LEAD 6 TACKED TO HULL Above, ground plate im-BASE proves performance of receiver in boat. Below, metal tubes may bechecked with ohmmeter; Below, C-clamp and brass angle used to flatten soft copper tubing for making solid bolted connections Below, compact "A," "B" and "C" open circuit shows batteries, suitable for portable reburned-out filament/ ceivers and test sets. Fig. A replaces old type No. 6 dry cells; Fig. WOOD C is a small 45-volt B-battery; Figs. B and D are 4½ and 7½-volt ADASS AMOUNT BLOCK STOCK C-bias batteries; Fig. E is a 3-volt "pen-light" battery consisting of DRIL two 10 - volt cells in series. Lower left, automatic switch turns your set "on" or "off" at any time up to a maximum of 5 hours FLAT TENING DRILLING TUBING CONNECTION MADE BY MACHINE SCREW THROUGH HOLES IN FLAT PORTIONS COPPER TUBING SOCKE 2 HEATER PRONGS

POPULAR MECHANIC

Electron-Coupled Exciter Unit



This variable-frequency control unit includes ganged buffer stages and enables the amateur operator quickly to shift his signal to another channel in the same band when he receives reports that he is being displays and turntables and to operate racovered by severe interference. Ganged tuning adjustment provides single-dial control from the operating desk.

Push-Button Console for Locals

Designed for high-quality reception in metropolitan areas served by powerful high-fidelity radio stations, this 8-tube set overs the standard broadcast band, has



12-in, speaker, and gives uniform reproduction in frequency range of from 50 to 7,000 cycles, with output of 12 watts. Additional features include "magic eye" for tube alinement, 8 stations pretuned, and there are no dials.

Complete Portable Set Tester

All instruments necessary for complete set testing . are included in this combination portable radio laboratory. The separate units consist of an all-wave signal generator; a



5,000 ohm per volt multirange meter and a tube tester. A roller index carries a list of tubes and testing procedure.

Magic Switch for Window Display

As this capacity-operated switching system works only when a prospective customer is in front of the show window it is unnecessary to leave the window lighted continuously. The photo is self-explanatory. It also may be used to start action die, phonograph, or spotlights.



(Blueprints covering radio construction) articles in past issues are available for 25 cents each; original material lists and additional information can be obtained from our Radio Department without charge upon receipt of postage.

NEXT MONTH—Three Simple Receivers for Beginners. A two-part step-by-step construction article for a low-cost crystal set; a one-tube broadcast-band batteryoperated receiver and a one-tube short-wave battery set. Same parts, with additions, used for all three sets. Actually a beginner's course in radio building



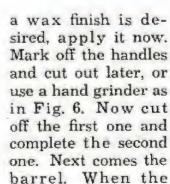
"BARREL" SMOKING SET

(1)

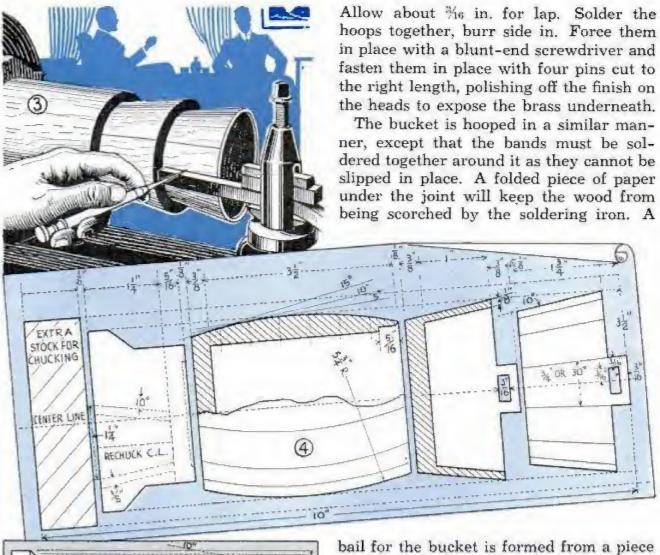
TRULY an unusual and novel addition to your den, home or cabin, this smoking set, Fig. 1, is modeled after grandmother's washing equipment—brass-bound bucket, tubs and rain barrel, complete to the spigot. If you

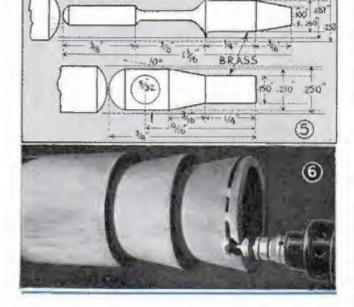
have a four-jaw chuck for your lathe, the entire set can be turned from one piece 3½ in. square and 10 in. long. Otherwise the pieces will have to be turned separately on a faceplate.

Using a chuck, turn the outsides of both tubs, Fig. 3, and the inside of the first one to the dimensions given in Fig. 4, adding a cut-off allowance between the tubs. Sand the work and score twelve stave joints. If



outside has been turned and sanded to size, turn the inside, forming a recess on the inside surface at the mouth to take the barrel head. Then wax the barrel and cut it off. The bucket and barrel head are turned in one piece from the remaining stock. Notice in Fig. 2, that the bucket sets to one side of the center of the head. Turn the head portion first, reverse the stock and clamp it in the chuck ½ in. off center to turn the bucket. Hoops for the tubs, bar-





rel and bucket are ½ in, wide and are cut from sheet brass or copper. Cut the strips from alternate ends of the sheet so that burrs will be on the same side of the strips. File off the burrs and measure the hoops for length by placing the strips around the tub or barrel ¼ in, below the final position.

bail for the bucket is formed from a piece of wire and is attached through small holes in the sides. A spigot for the barrel is turned from ¼-in. rod as shown in Fig. 5. If a metal-turning lathe is not at hand, it may be filed out on a drill press or slightly enlarged and turned from wood.

Bobby Pin Serves as Bodkin

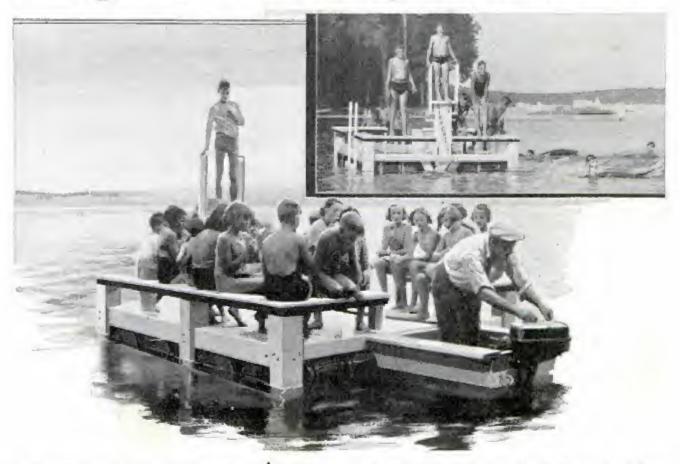
When you have to thread a tape, ribbon or elastic through a hem in a garment, and a bodkin is not at hand, a bobby pin from your hair provides a good substitute. Run



the end of the tape or elastic through the looped end of the pin and use it as shown.

(When slicing hard-boiled eggs, the yolks can be prevented from crumbling by wetting the knife before each cut.

Diving Raft Is Pushed by Outboard Motor



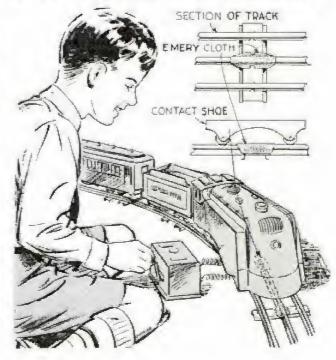
Carrying as many as twenty swimmers, this raft is pushed to any spot in a lake or river by an outboard motor. It has a ladder from the water to the deck and a diving platform, in addition to seats which serve as a railing around the edges of the raft. It is constructed of strong timbers and is floated on airtight oil drums. At the stern of the raft is a small projection which carries the motor and provides a well in which the operator of the raft rides.

-F. J. Burr, Rockford, Ill.

Current Collector on Toy Train Is Polished Automatically

To assure good electrical contact between the current collector and the third
rail of a toy train, attach a short strip of
emery cloth to the rail as indicated, slipping the edges under the tabs that clamp
the rails to one of the ties. The strip should
be a little shorter than the distance between the two shoes or rollers of the collector so that the current will not be interrupted entirely. The collector slides
over the abrasive each time the train goes
around the track and removes film, dirt
or oxide that may form on the collector.

(IA mixture of equal parts of thick, boiled starch and thick, warm soapsuds is a good polish for linoleum; the mixture preserves the finish of the linoleum and makes it resistant to soiling.



Shatterproof Eye Shield and Lamp for Your Bench Grinder

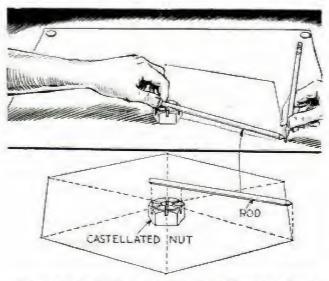


Providing eye safety against flying particles, this shield also illuminates the work

Used successfully in high-school shops, the grinder shield shown in the photo combines shatterproof glass to protect the eyes along with a lamp that provides good illumination for the work. Simple to make, the shield consists of a small board with openings cut near the ends, the edges being rabbeted to take glass, which is supported directly over the wheels. A bulb under the opaque center section of the shield provides plenty of light.

Drawing Large Hexagon Figures

When you want to draw large hexagon figures, and there is no compass or square at hand, use a castellated nut. Using the

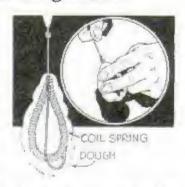


It's a simple trick to draw a large hexagon figure with the aid of a rod and castellated nut

nut as a center, place a rod, pencil or similar object in two slots of the nut and mark the work at the end of the rod. Repeat this operation for each of the six slots, taking care that the rod projects the same distance from the nut each time. Connecting the marks with lines completes the figure.—W. C. Wilhite, Carlinville, Ill.

Small Coil Spring on Fishhook Preserves Dough Bait

When fishing with dough bait, get a small coil spring, bend it into a loop and run the hook through it as indicated. Then mold the bait around the spring and hook.



This arrangement will help prevent the water from washing off the bait.

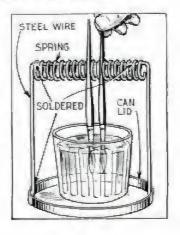
Paper Gauge for the Typist

To avoid typing too near the lower edge of a sheet of paper, cut a ½-in. strip from the bottom of the carbon sheet. This edge will show through the original copy when you are near the bottom of the paper. The carbon can be seen best through lightweight papers, but no trouble has been experienced on paper even of 20-lb. weight.

—W. Melzian, Los Angeles, Calif.

Artists' Brush Holder Suspends Bristles in Cleaner

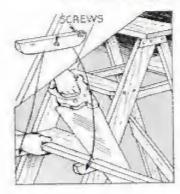
Bristles of your brushes will always be soft and will last longer than normally if you use a holder like the one shown, because it keeps the brushes suspended in a glass of cleaner. The holder consists of a length of wire



bent to a U-shape and soldered to a can lid with a coil spring soldered to the horizontal part to hold the brush handles. A glass of cleaning fluid is set in the lid so that the entire assembly can be picked up and moved at will.

-C. A. Adams, Saskatoon, Sask., Can.

Turn Buttons on Sides of Ladder Hold Strips for Sawing



For putting up picture molding, fitting window stops, etc., a pair of wooden turn buttons attached to the sides of the stepladder will be found handy to support the work while sawing it.

The buttons should fit snugly so that they will remain in position when opened for use or folded out of the way.

Mosquito Net on Beach Umbrella Keeps Insects Away

Sew a few dress hooks around the edge of your beach umbrella and when you go to the beach, mosquito netting can be fastened to them to keep insects from bothering you. A strip of cloth binding can be sewed to the edge of the netting to reinforce it so that the eyes of the hooks can be attached to it.



Mosquito netting hung from your umbrella provides a retreat from insects when you are at the beach

Camera Bed Held at Angle Rigidly to Photograph Tall Buildings



Bed of small folding camera tilted and locked rigidly to take picture of tall object without distortion

You can photograph a tall building or other object with a small folding camera almost as good as the job can be done with a commercial camera that has a swing back, if the bed of the small camera is tilted as indicated. After tilting the bed at the desired angle, a C-clamp is used to hold it rigidly in place while taking the photo.—Kenneth Murray, Sturgis, Mich.

Non-Drip Can to Water Flowers

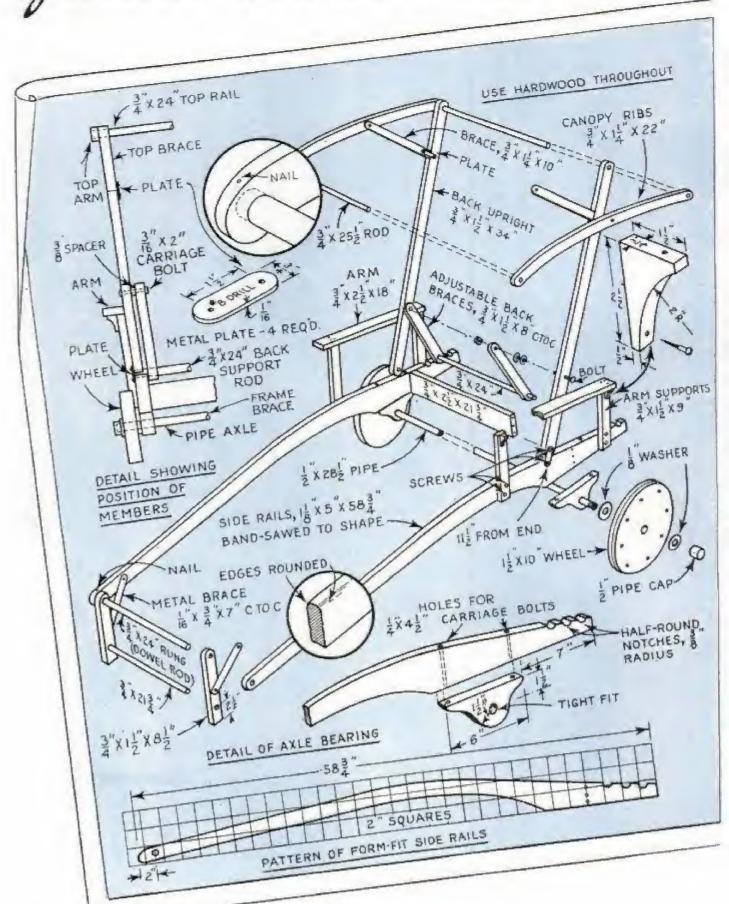
When you use a sprinkling can to water potted flowers, cut a large washer from an old inner tube and slip it over the can spout as indicated to catch water that drips from the end. The washer will assume a cup

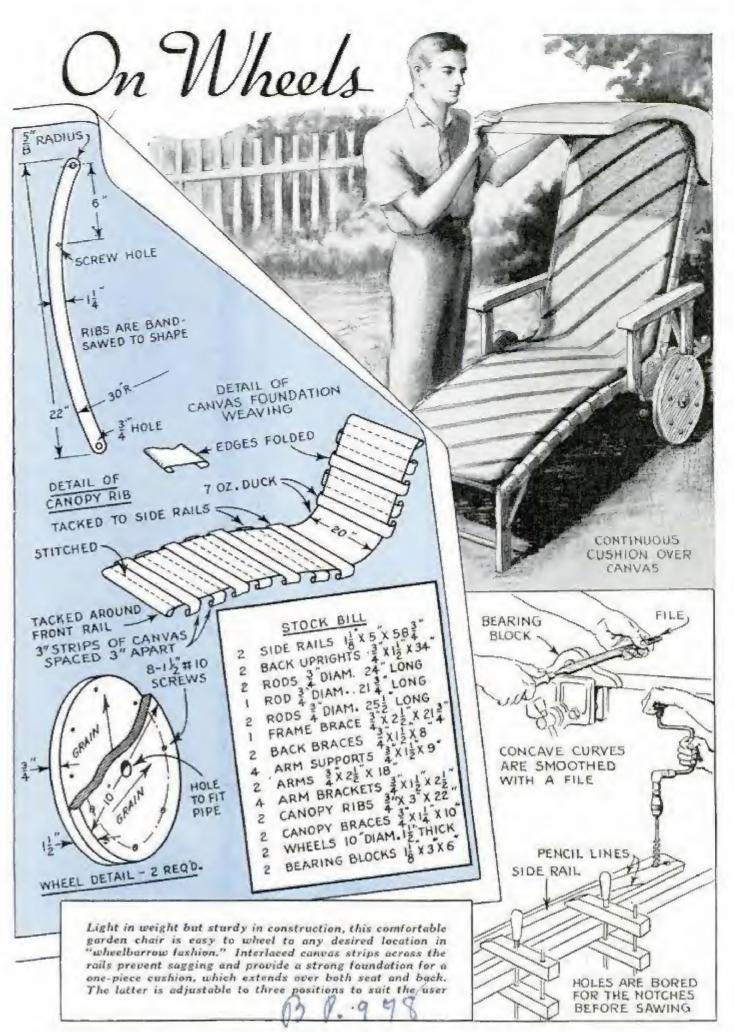


shape if the hole in the center is slightly smaller than the diameter of the spout.

(The next time you peach eggs, add a tablespoonful of vinegar to the water, and the whites will set without spreading.

Garden CHAISE LONGUE





with Hot File

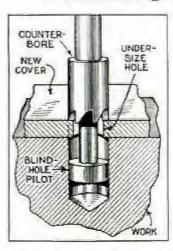


Hot file pressed into surface of linoleum block to produce dots, which shade your prints

Anyone who works with linoleum blocks can produce shading on his prints by "etching" the blocks with an old file. Use one that is bent at right angles near the end. Then heat it and press it against the parts of the block to be shaded. This produces a series of parallel lines in the linoleum. Next go over the work again, holding the file at right angles to the first lines, which will produce small dots in the surface of the block similar to "Ben Day" effects. This work must be done carefully. and the iron must not be too hot or the dots will be burned.

-Kenneth L. Wilson, Houghton, N. Y.

Transferring a Blind Hole



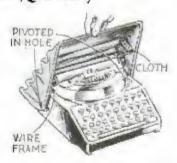
To accurately locate the position of a blind hole on another piece of work, this special pilot which is used in connection with a counterbore, will do the trick. First lay off the position of the hole on the work and drill it about 1/8 in. undersize. Then

make a pilot with a head that is a sliding smaller to pass through the small hole in tubes will do.

Linoleum Blocks Shaded Easily the new work and into the counterbore, which is the same size as the blind hole. The pilot will guide the counterbore, which is used to enlarge the hole in the new work to size.

'Buggy-Top' Cover for Typewriter Is Closed Quickly

Opened or closed just like a buggy top, this typewriter cover is always at hand, yet is out of the way when working with the machine. The cover is sewed to two



U-shaped wire frames, which are bent at right angles about an inch from the ends to pivot in two holes drilled in the sides of the typewriter near the bottom.

Rubber Cement Used as Eraser

Rubber cement serves nicely in cleaning smudged work where the abrasiveness of a regular rubber eraser might cause damage. The cement is spread generously over



the area to be cleaned, allowed to dry and is then rubbed off with a clean cloth. White rubber cement is preferable, alfit in the blind hole and a shank much though the kind used in repairing inner

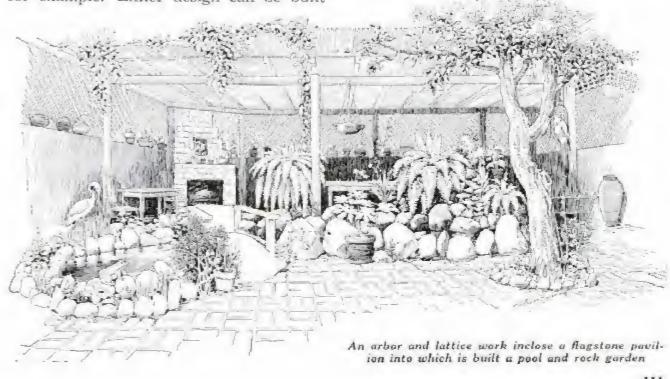
OUTDOOR LIVING ROOMS

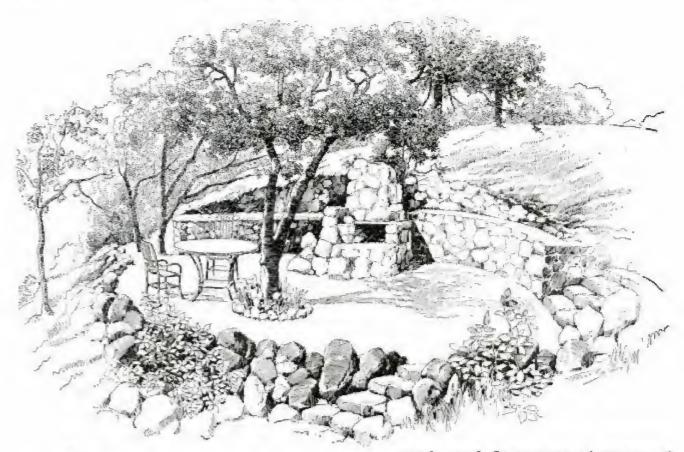


By FRANK E. BROWN

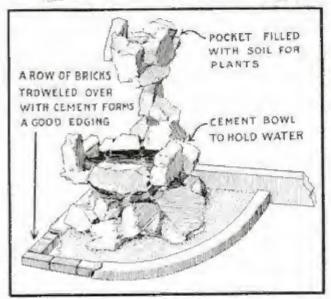
PLANNING your back yard for the full enjoyment of an outdoor living room requires a generous bit of time and thought. The materials alone usually require only a small cash outlay. Often you can make use of items already at hand and those which must be purchased need not be expensive.

Take the two suggestions on this page, for example. Either design can be built and anyone handy with tools can do practically all the structural work. Both designs combine a shelter with an outdoor fireplace, the first being simply a framework of rustic timbers supporting a roof thatched with material appropriate to the locality in which it is built. The walls and fireplace are of cobblestones laid in cement. Where cobblestones are not obtainable or are too costly, very attractive work can be done with brick or pieces of broken concrete. Decorative items might be gourds, charm strings of brightly colored







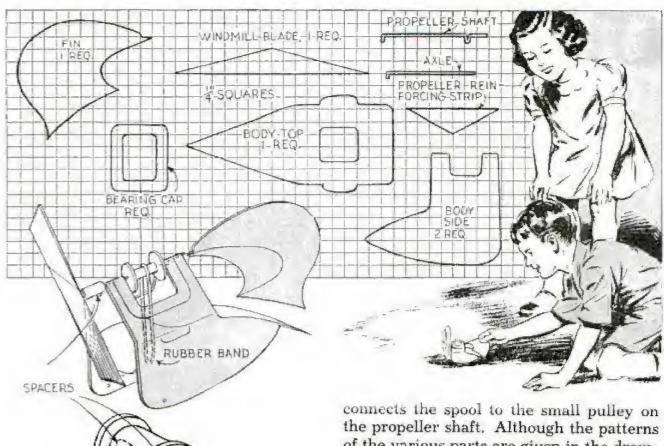


pods, and flowerpots of unusual shapes. The furnishings may be an enameled table and benches with several chairs of rustic style. The second design is really an arbor sheltering a flagstone pavilion into which is built a pool and rock garden. Of course, such a construction offers almost unlimited opportunity for unusual lighting effects and novel arrangement of the furnishings.

In the third design, which goes well on a sloping lot, the nearest approach to formal treatment is the curved cobblestone wall around the

back of the fireplace. The lower wall is simply loosely laid field stones of assorted sizes. The sloping floor might be of colored concrete or flagstones. This particular design is perhaps more flexible in its possible adaptations than any of the others. The next suggestion is especially suited to the small lot and consists of a simple vineshaded arbor, with a stone fireplace. This style is unusually effective when placed at the back of the small lot and fronting on a fairly large pool. The final suggestion shows what can be done with broken concrete, the design being suitable as a corner piece for a small stone court. A soil pocket for plants and a concrete bowl to hold water are possible elaborations of the idea.

Propeller Spins When Toy Is Pushed on Floor



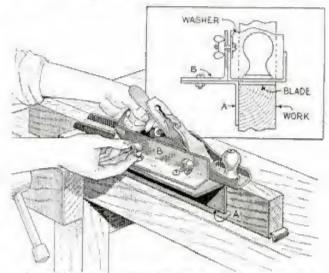
Here's a simple toy that fascinates two or three-year children because pushing it over the floor or table top slowly causes the propeller to spin. An ordinary thread spool contacts the floor and a rubber band connects the spool to the small pulley on the propeller shaft. Although the patterns of the various parts are given in the drawing, allowance must be made for the kind of material used to construct the toy, and the method of assembly also depends greatly on the material. While this toy originally was built of cardboard, this is rather fragile and one made of thin sheet metal or even hard-pressed board is suggested for greater durability.

-Glenn Bryant, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

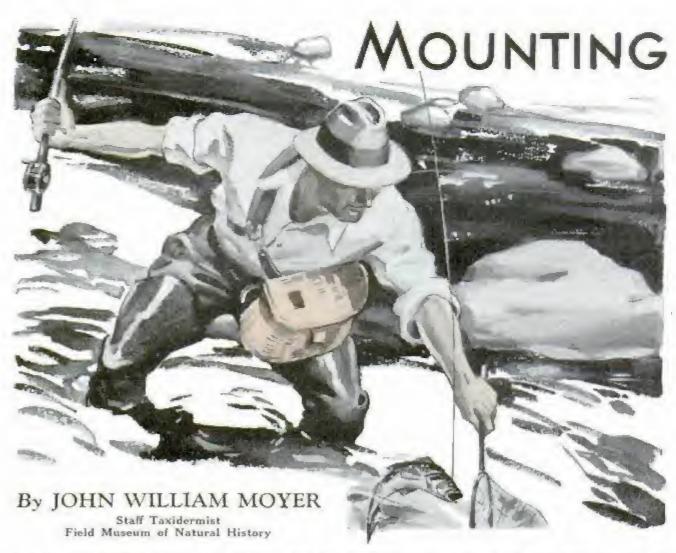
Jointer Gauge for Hand Plane to Square Edges of Stock

This gauge will enable you to joint the edges of work squarely. Two pieces of angle brass are fastened together with machine screws as indicated. Piece A serves as a fence or guide against the work, while piece B carries the plane. It is advisable to set piece A at a slight angle so that the plane iron cuts the work with a shearing action. Two bolts with large washers under the heads clamp the gauge to the plane, the washers merely overhanging the top edge of the plane sides. This makes it unnecessary to drill holes in the plane. Wing nuts on the bolts facilitate attaching or removing.

-S. J. Gancher, Richmond Hill, N. Y.

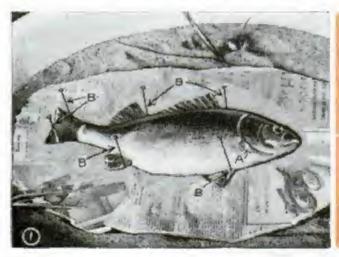


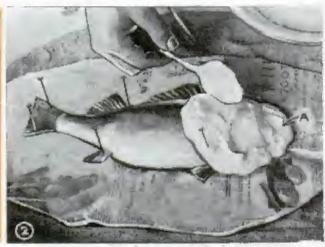
Hold the plane with the fence of the gauge flat against the side of the work



THE supreme moment in fishing—landing the king of all fighters—is given an added thrill if you can mount the fish as proof of your skill. The first step after the fish has been taken from the water, and even before it is dead, if possible, is to take accurate color notes. It is important that this be done, as fish begin to lose their colors immediately after leaving the water. A drawing, or outline, of them can be made and the proper colors marked in, using

wax-crayon pencils or just writing in the correct colors. Make a note of the eye color so the proper colored glass eyes can be inserted in the specimen later. The best way to keep a fish, if it is necessary to preserve the specimen several hours, possibly several days, before mounting, is to wrap it tightly in wet moss, or a wet towel and pack in cracked ice. Replace the ice as it melts and mount the specimen as soon as possible.





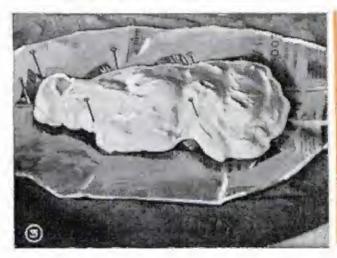
THE FISH YOU CATCH



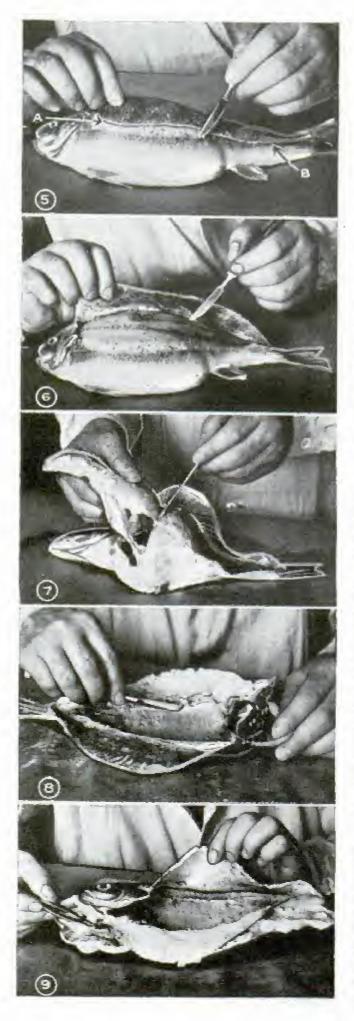
When you are ready to prepare the specimen, wash it well in cold, running water, taking care that the inside of the mouth and gills is thoroughly clean. Now sponge off the side of the fish that is to show with alum water (about a teaspoonful of alum to a gallon of water). This will set the mucus with which all fish are covered. Cut off the pectoral fin A, Fig. 1, from the show side and keep this fin wet so it will stay relaxed until used later. Lay the fish in a box of sand, first putting a piece of newspaper on top of the sand and the fish on this; the paper to keep the sand from sticking to the specimen. The fish is buried about halfway in the sand in the pose wanted in the finished mount. The fins and tail are now spread and held in position with large pins, B, in Fig. 1.

Now mix up a batch of plaster of paris, making it quite thick so it will set quickly, and pour this over the fish. Start at the head and work back toward the tail, as at A in Fig. 2, but do not cover the fins and tail any more than shown in Fig. 3. Leave the pins in until the plaster has set and then remove them, after which the cast is turned over and, grasping the fish by the tail, it is removed from the mold, Fig. 4. Lay the mold aside for the time being and wash all plaster particles from the fish.

Skinning of the specimen is next. Lay it on the show side and with a sharp knife make an incision along the lateral line on the off side, A to B, Fig. 5. Cut through the scales and skin, but not any deeper. Separate the skin from the body, Fig. 6, being careful not to leave any more flesh







attached to the skin than necessary. When the base of the fins and tail is reached, use a heavy pair of scissors to cut loose from the body. Skin down over the back until the head is reached and sever the body from the head and skin as in Fig. 7. The skin is next cleaned of all remaining flesh with a dull knife, taking care not to injure the silvery lining next to the skin, Fig. 8. Clean the head thoroughly, removing the eyes and flesh in the cheeks (which can be removed through the eye cavity) and around the head; do not remove the gills, Cut away all flesh around the fins and tail. but be careful and do not cut through the skin. After the skin is thoroughly cleaned, wash it off in cold water and allow to drain. Now dip the skin in alcohol, which acts as a preservative and also "sets" it. Around the base of the fins and tail, use some formaldehyde to act on any particles of flesh that could not be removed. Also use formaldehyde in the head and around the gills. Keep fins and tail wet at all times, so they will stay relaxed.

The fish skin is now laid into the plasterof-paris mold and pressed into the correct shape, the mold acting as a guide, Fig. 9. See that the head and tail fit in their correct places. Now mix up a batch of any quick-setting papier-mache (any number of brands of papier-mache can be bought from taxidermy supply houses) and flow in a layer of this on the skin. Cut a small block of wood, A in Fig. 10, and set this into place. Now make the papier-mache thicker and fill up the rest of the skin. As this is being done, start at the tail and sew up the specimen, taking care to get in just the proper amount of papier-mache. After the specimen is sewed up and while the papier-mache is still soft, press the fish firmly into the mold and model into shape as in Fig. 11. Allow the papier-mache to set thoroughly, but keep the fins and tail wet and relaxed.

Then remove the fish from the plaster mold, Fig. 12. Now fasten the fish to a temporary piece of wood by driving screws into the block of wood previously placed inside the specimen, and allow to dry thoroughly. Give the fins and tail the correct spread and angle and hold them in position by pinning between two pieces of cardboard. Pin down the gill coverts and either close or open the mouth, filling in

the cheeks with papier-mache as in Fig. 13. After four to six hours, give the body a thin coat of white shellac to prevent the scales, in some specimens, from curling.

Allow the work to dry for several weeks, depending on the size of the specimen, and then remove the cardboard from the fins and tail. They should be reinforced on the underside with a piece of thin cloth glued in place, and on the top side with tissue paper as in Fig. 14. Use what is known as carpenter's glue for this work and add some glycerin to it to keep the fins and

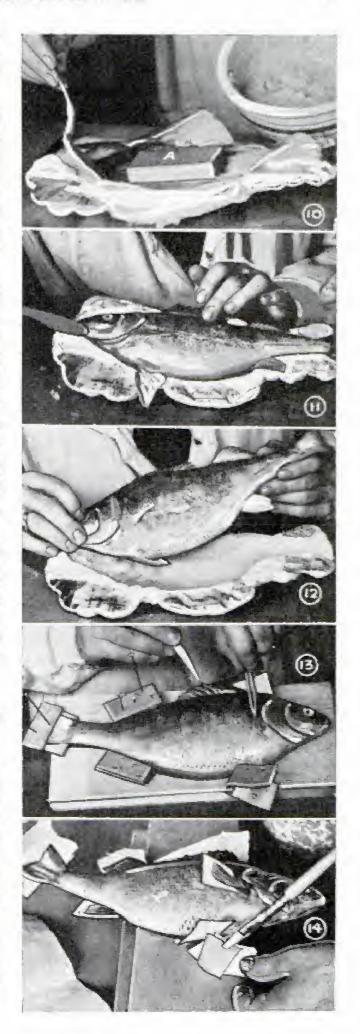
tail flexible, Fig. 14.

After the glue has dried, the fins and tail are trimmed using a sharp pair of scissors; trim according to the natural shape of the fins and tail. The pectoral fin is now fastened into place. Fill in any depression around the fins, tail or head caused by the skin shrinking in the drying, with modeling wax, or a smooth papier-mache. Glass eyes, which can be bought from a taxidermy supply house, either colored or clear eyes that one can color from the notes taken, are next set into place with the wax or mache. The specimen is now given a light coat of white shellac to form a base for our coloring.

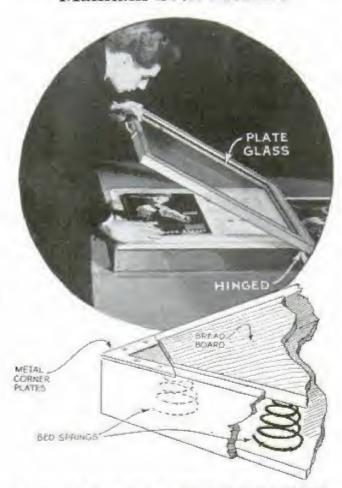
Following the color notes taken when the fish was first caught, the true colors are applied to the specimen, making it look as natural as possible. Do not use the colors too heavy and do not brush them on; stipple them as a sort of color tints. After the specimen is colored, allow to dry and then give it a light coat of a good varnish.

Firm Angle Worms Assure a Big String of Fish

When using angle worms for fish bait, anglers will find that trout and bass are more apt to strike them if they are kept fresh and firm. This is best done by lining the bottom of your bait box with swamp moss, which can be found in marshy woodlands. If the moss is not available in the woods, it can be obtained at your nearest florist. After covering the bottom of the bait box with moss, dampen it, place the day's supply of worms inside and cover them with more moss. The worms will be firm and fresh when the stream or lake is reached and they will remain in good condition for a full day's fishing.



Springs in Photo Printing Frame Maintain Even Pressure



Large size frame has a resilient bed that holds the work in contact with the glass uniformly

Useful in either an amateur or commercial photo studio, this frame serves for printing large sizes of paper, flattening prints or copying. It consists of two parts hinged together, the top part having a piece of plate glass flush with its lower surface, and a hand grip for easy manipulation. The glass presses tightly against the wood top of the lower part, which floats on coil springs and is retained by metal corner plates. The floating piece may be an ordinary breadboard and it should fit loosely, permitting up-and-down movement. The board should be recessed at the corners to assure contact with the glass at all points.

Cleaner for White Shoes

An excellent cleaner for white shoes can be made as follows: Dissolve soda ash, 1½ oz., and soap flakes, 6 oz., in hot water, 3 qts. When partly cooled, add a solution, which has been made by soaking powdered gum arabic, 2 oz., in water, 2 fluid oz., for 15 min. and then shaking or stirring until dissolved. When the mixture has cooled, vigorously stir in titanium dioxide (white), 4½ lbs. The finished cleaner is bottled while being stirred and the directions should indicate that the product is to be shaken before applying.

Tinfoil Strips Keep Birds Away from Flower Beds

Birds will not scratch out seeds, tiny plants or eat your strawberries if you suspend narrow strips of tinfoil from wire stakes set in the garden. The tinfoil strips have the advantage over

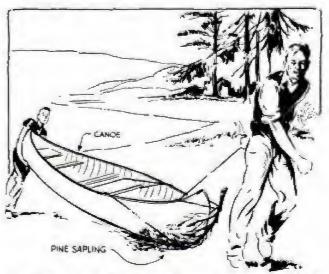


cloth or paper in that they flutter in a lighter breeze and crackle quite loudly.

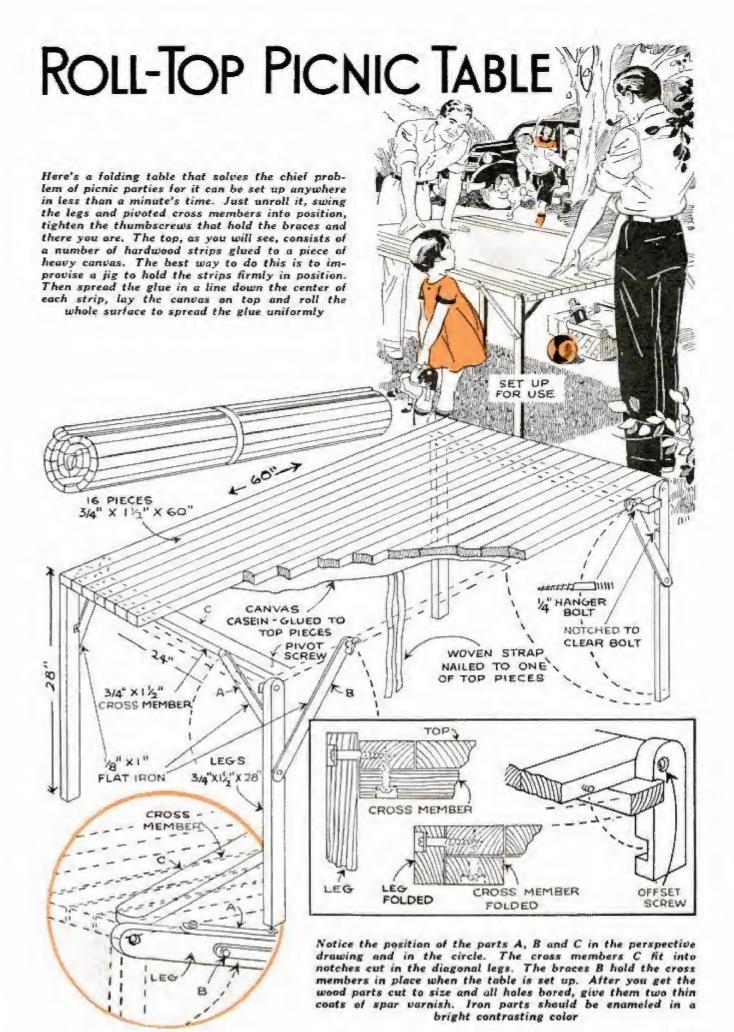
-W. L. Wernicke, Valley Stream, L. I.

Canoe Skidded Safely over Beach on Tree Bough

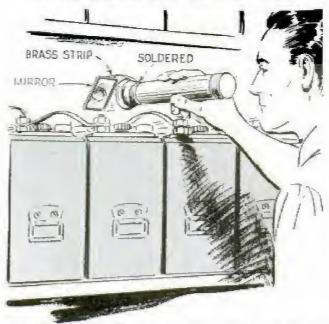
When a canoe must be transported some distance from camp to the water, one fisherman lashes a pine sapling or tree bough to the thwart at either side to serve as a skid. The bow of the canoe is thus protected so that the opposite end may be raised and the craft pushed over fairly rough surfaces without damage.



Small tree lashed to bow of canoe serves as skid to move craft over beach or around rapids



Batteries Are Quickly Inspected with Flashlight and Mirror

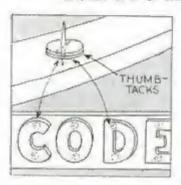


Flashlight with mirror attached permits you to see into openings that are usually difficult to reach

When storage batteries are set on shelves where it is difficult to inspect them, a flashlight with a mirror attached in front of the lens will save time and trouble. A small pocket mirror that has a metal frame is best as a brass strip can be soldered to both it and the flashlight case. When the flashlight is held as indicated, light is reflected into the battery so that the image of the interior can be seen in the mirror. Plumbers and electricians will find this idea handy when looking between wall partitions by inserting the mirror into a small opening so that light can be reflected between the walls.

-Vincent F. Cipolle, Los Angeles, Calif.

Double-Pointed Fasteners Made from Two Thumbtacks



Thumbtacks of the type that have slots in the heads can be used double where a quick fastener is needed. The point of one tack fits through the slot in the other, providing a

double-pointed tack that is useful for fastening pictures to a wall or for hanging up any light object. Such fasteners have been used for pinning wooden letters onto a board to provide signs that are changed quickly.—John G. Roberts, Chicago.

Diameter of Round Work Found with Two Squares

Two squares provide a quick means of finding the diameter of round work. Just place it on one square as indicated, and then butt



the other tightly against it. The dimension on the first opposite the edge of the second square is the diameter of the work in inches.—R. L. Allen, Dothan, Ala.

Shotgun Shell Holds Paraffin to Wax Fishline



A handy method of waxing your fishline to preserve it, is to carry a discharged shotgun shell that has been filled with melted paraffin. A deep slot in the end of the shell

permits the line to be drawn over the wax quickly.—G. E. Hendrickson, Argyle, Wis.

Cord of Electric Shaver Knotted to Avoid Dropping

Instead of taking a chance of
dropping an electric shaver, which
might result in a
broken case or
damaged cutting
head, knot the
cord as indicated
and slip the resulting loop over
your wrist. There
is no possibility of



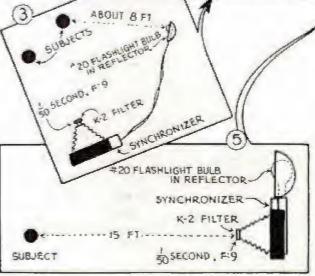
the shaver reaching the floor if it is dropped and you don't have to remove the knot when you have finished shaving. PHOTO FLASHES for DAYTIME SHOTS

HOW would you take the type pictures shown in Figs. 2, 4 and 6? Not many years ago probably it would have been wise to give up the idea entirely but now, with the photoflash lamp and the synchronizer, Fig. 1, you can handle these tricky daylight shots. A moment's study of the three compositions will show you why they used to be considered extremely difficult. In the first two, Figs. 2 and 4, you have the problem of a bright blue sky with scattering clouds, and a foreground composed of considerable essential detail. To secure balance it is necessary that you eatch this foreground detail with a comparatively short exposure. This must be done in order to render the sky properly. Normally if you increase the exposure sufficiently to assure foreground detail, even with a filter









over the lens, you will overexpose the sky so greatly there will be little or no cloud detail recorded. The result will be a negative badly out of balance. Figs. 3 and 5 show how the two shots in question were taken, using photoflash lamps and a synchronizer. Notice especially how the bright light from the sky was utilized to backlight the figures in both shots and that the photoflash gave the necessary frontal detail in the faces to assure a pleasing and striking composition. In taking the photo Fig. 2, the natural lighting made it necessary to have the synchronizer fitted with an extension socket and reflector unit so that



the latter could be located some distance from the camera as shown in Fig. 3. In shooting the second photo, Fig. 4, the flash unit was used attached to the camera as you see it in Figs. 1 and 5.

Fig. 6 is another example of how the flash lamp can be used to control the lighting in daytime photography of a difficult subject. Here again you have the problem of effectively rendering near and distant detail. With the flash unit you photograph the landscape by the light of the sun, and the near side of the arch and the figure by

the light from the flash lamp. Of course, there are many factors to consider in taking any similar

photo as the actual conditions will never be exactly the same. A good exposure meter will eliminate much of the guesswork. Sometimes it is desirable to make a photograph of a subject out of doors without showing any background. Fig. 7 is an example of this. To eliminate strong shadows and show detail in the camera and the dark clothing of the figure, the flash lamp was used, in this instance being fired from the camera.

The portrait of the puppy, Fig. 8, and the detail, Fig. 9, indicate how a somewhat different problem in lighting was handled. In order to backlight the subject and sharpen the profile, a spotlight was placed as in Fig. 9. Then to catch all details of pose, expression, and body contour a photoflash was fired from the camera, using a medium stop opening and a comparatively short exposure.

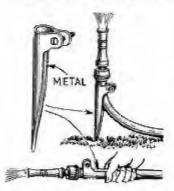
Lacquer Avoids Spotty Photos

When touching up an enlargement from a miniature negative, the difficulty of matching the luster of the retouched surface with the rest of the print to avoid spottiness, is overcome by applying clear lacquer. This is brushed on in the usual manner, a large brush being preferred. Absorbent surfaces may require two coatings, but usually one will suffice.

-John G. Roberts, Chicago.

Support for Garden-Hose Nozzle

Permanently attached to your garden hose, this metal stake or support is always

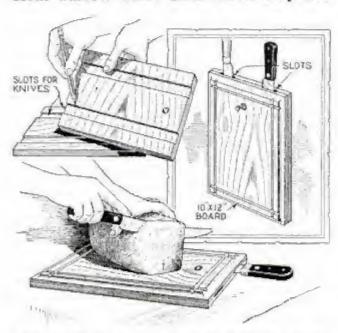


at hand to push into the ground and support the nozzle in a vertical position. When not in use, it lies close to the hose out of the way when holding the latter in your hand. The support

is a piece of sheet metal cut and bent to the shape shown. It is clamped around the hose just back of the nozzle.

Knives Stored in Breadboard

Here's a breadboard that should be doubly welcome in your kitchen as it keeps the bread knives handy and there is no possibility of the edges being damaged. The board consists of two parts, grooves being cut in one surface of each one to form narrow knife slots when they are

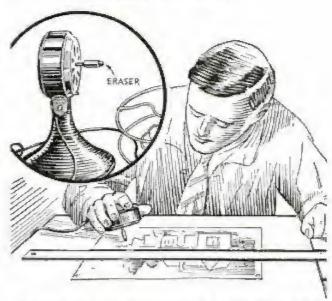


Your bread knives are always at hand and the cutting edges are well protected in this board

glued together. Use waterproof glue, and apply several coats of raw linseed oil, allowing each coat to dry two days before the next is applied. The oil tends to make the board resistant to water and helps to prevent excessive warping.

-Burl Knutson, Bismarck, N. D.

Electric Eraser Cleans Fast and Smooth



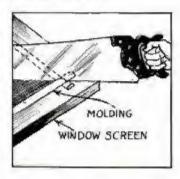
Cleaning or erasing portions of drawings is done quickly with this electric eraser

Especially useful for erasing in restricted spaces, this power eraser will save time and enable you to do a neat job. It consists of a tiny electric motor, such as used on small electric fans, the abrasive rubber being attached to the armature shaft by means of a wood or metal sleeve. When the eraser becomes dirty, a piece of fine sandpaper held lightly against it while rotating will clean it quickly.

-Frank W. Bone, Adrian, Mich,

Easy Way to Miter Molding on Window Screens

Instead of carefully measuring
and then mitering
the ends of window-screen moldings, I nail them
in place, allowing
the ends to overlap slightly at the
corners. Then I



saw through both pieces at an angle. This method gives me a tight-fitting joint and saves a lot of time. A little care must be taken not to cut the wire or saw into the screen frame.—A. L. Toews, Angwin, Cal.

(When a sewing-machine belt loosens enough to slip, a few drops of castor oil applied to it usually will stop the trouble.

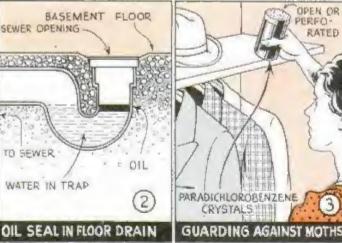
CHEMICAL" SERVANTS



By J. B. MULLEN

IN THE accomplishment of everyday household tasks, it is often possible to minimize hard and tedious labor by the expedient use of simple chemical solutions, which can be prepared easily by anyone.

For example, after long exposure to the elements, window glass becomes dull and opaque. To renew the glass, it is washed first with water, and then with a solution made by slowly pouring hydrochloric (muriatic) acid, 2 oz., into water, 1 pt., in a stoneware or glass container. Apply this solution as shown in Fig. 1. Care should be taken to wear rubber gloves and not to splash the acid solution on the clothing or skin. After washing away the acid with water, the glass may be polished with a paste made from precipitated chalk, 1 lb., in ammonia, 1 pt., and denatured alcohol, 1 pt. The paste is rubbed on the glass and



allowed to dry, after which the white costing is rubbed off with a clean, soft cloth.

OPEN OR

Sewer traps, such as those in the floors of basements, become dry, if they are not used frequently, and allow dangerous and unpleasant gases to enter the house. To prevent this, flush the trap and then pour a small quantity of oil, such as used motor oil, into the trap as in Fig. 2. The oil will float on top of the water and prevent evaporation. If a building is vacant during freezing weather, sufficient kerosene should be poured into all traps to replace the water and thus prevent bursting of the pipes.

Paradichlorobenzene crystals make a good moth repellent if placed in an open container in a tightly sealed closet as in Fig. 3. Gummed tape around the edges of the door makes an effective seal. The crystals change to a vapor which is poisonous to moths but relatively non-injurious to human beings.

Chimneys which have become clogged with soot may be cleaned easily by throwing 1/4 lb. or more of a cleaning compound into the stove or furnace on top of a hot bed of coals, as in Fig. 5, and the door closed quickly so that the full draft will be available when the compound takes fire. A good compound is made from ordinary table salt, 7 lbs., potassium nitrate (saltpeter), 4 lbs., flowers of sulphur, 7 lbs., copper sulphate, 7 lbs., ammonium chloride, 8 lbs. The chemicals are thoroughly mixed together until a uniformly colored powder is obtained. This must be kept in



door quickly.

Upholstered furniture which has become infested with moths may be cleared of them by spraying the furniture as indicated in Fig. 6, with a solution made by dissolving paradichlorobenzene, 1 oz., in ethylene dichloride, 4 pts. 11 oz., and carbon tetrachloride, 1 pt. 9 oz. This solution is non-flammable and will not leave a stain on upholstery or clothing.

An effective deodorant and disinfectant is made from pine oil, rosin, lye and water. The concentrated disinfectant from which the spray is made as needed, is prepared by heating together steam-distilled pine oil, 5 lbs., and water-white wood rosin, 2 lbs., in a kettle, preferably over a water bath as in Fig. 7. The mixture should be stirred while heating and should be watched carefully so that the temperature does not rise above 176° F. The heating and stirring are continued until the rosin has all melted and mixed to an even, oily consistency. Care must be taken to prevent the mixture catching fire. When dissolved, the mix is allowed to cool

STEAM DISTILLED PINE OIL SUBS.

WATER WHITE WOOD ROSIN , 2 LBS.

WATER WATER

WATER SPINTS

WATER STEAM

IYE SOLUTION ADDED

SOLUTION TO DEODORIZE AND DISINFECT

until the thermometer reads 140° F. At this temperature 1 pt. of a lye solution, made by dissolving high-test lye, 1 lb., in water, 3 pts., is added slowly while stirring gently. If the lye is added too fast the batch may foam over the sides of the kettle. When all the lye has been added the heat should be regulated so as to keep the batch at about 140° F. for a half hour. During this time it should be stirred slowly.

For use, the clear amber solution made as above is poured into water while stirring briskly with a paddle as in Fig. 8. As a wash for deodorizing and disinfecting bathroom fixtures, Fig. 12, one part of the



LIGHT MINERAL

CIL , 4 PINTS

KEROSENE,

concentrated disinfectant is stirred into 40 parts of water. This will produce a milky solution which is an excellent disinfectant and deodorant, but which will not burn the hands and is

non-corrosive and non-toxic. The same solution may be used as a spray to destroy musty odors in basements, to disinfect garbage cans, and as a spray for outbuildings and poultry houses.

Very often a screw or nut which ' has been in place for a long time

is rusted or corroded to such a degree that removal is impossible without the use of an effective penetrating oil. This is made by mixing together thoroughly secondary butyl alcohol, 15 fl. oz., light mineral oil, 4 pts., and kerosene, 30 fl. oz., Fig. 9. The oil is sprayed or dropped on the parts, and allowed to stand for a few minutes.

A brush-cleaning solution that is really effective can be made by mixing kerosene, 1 gal., and oleic acid, ½ gal., in a large container. In another container, 28 per cent ammonia water, 1 pt., and denatured alcohol, 1 pt., are mixed as in Fig. 10. The ammonia-alcohol mixture is stirred into the kerosene solution until a smooth product results. The mixture is kept in a tightly corked container to prevent evaporation. To use the solution, the brushes are allowed to stand in the mixture overnight, after which they are washed out with warm water. It is best to soak the brushes in the mixture in a covered can, as in Fig. 11.

Old grease spots on cloth or paper may be removed by rubbing them with a mixture of calcined magnesia and benzene, rubbed to a paste, Figs. 14 and 15. The benzene dissolves the grease and the magnesia absorbs it. While it may be necessary to make several applications, the advantage of this cleaner is that it does not leave a

> ring. It may be preserved in a large bottle if the latter is tightly corked.

> Paradichlorobenzene is effective as an ant exterminator. For this purpose 1 lb. of the crystals is dissolved in carbon tetrachloride or kerosene, 2 ats., Fig. 13, and the solution is poured into the ant holes as shown. The carbon-



(12)

tetrachloride solution has the advantage of being noninflammable. Ants may be prevented from entering a building by sprinkling oil of sassafras about the doors and any other place where the insects are gaining entrance.

Books that have been on the shelves or in cases for a long time become quite dusty and dirty along the edges of the pages. Ordinary dusting fails to remove this accumulation. The dust and dirt can be removed by rubbing with bread. The best substance to use is the well-cooked but doughy bread inside the crusts of fresh rolls. In applying, the soiled book is rubbed with a ball of the dough as shown in Fig. 16. The ball may be used until it is saturated with dirt.

Odors from vegetables kept in the refrigerator may be prevented from contaminating other foodstuff kept in the same compartment by including a perforated can contain-

ing charcoal. The can should be of aluminum so that it will not corrode. It should have a capacity of about 1 qt. for a 3-cu.-ft. refrigerator. Small holes should be punched into the sides and top of the can as close together as possible so that the charcoal will absorb the odors. The charcoal used may be from willow or other fine-grained wood. It should be pulverized as fine as possible to retain in the perforated can. Before using, the charcoal should be heated in an open pan to just under the point where it starts to glow, to free it from any gases which it may contain. The charcoal should be removed and reheated in the same manner about once a week to keep it in good active condition. In order to make the charcoal of the utmost effectiveness, the

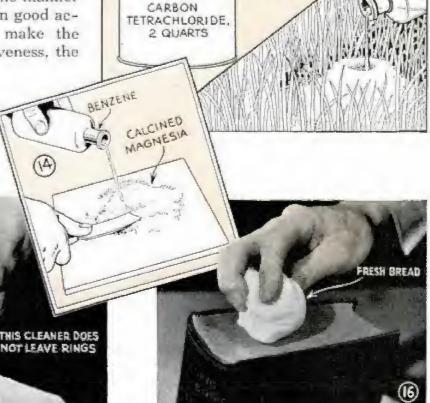
entire interior of the refrigerator compartment should be kept scrupulously clean. It's a good idea to do this each time the charcoal is taken out to heat it.

(15)



CRYSTALS ILB

(13)



Combined Shelf and Towel Rack for Bath or Dressing Room

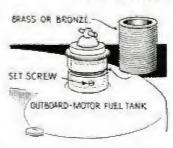


Bathrooms and dressing rooms without adequate shelves are improved with this combination

Neat and attractive, this combination greatly improves a bathroom or dressing room that is not adequately equipped, or one that is used by more than one person at a time. The glass shelf provides plenty of space for combs, brushes and other toilet articles while the rack underneath is ideal for towels. The shelf supports and the towel bars are made of heavy wire, the supports being bent to the shape indicated and the bars soldered to them. Screw eyes driven into the wall with the eyes opened and then closed over the supports, hold the assembly in place.

-David E. Anderson, Alhambra, Calif.

Improving Filler Hole in Gas Tank of Outboard Motor



Due to the soft metal often used in the manufacture of gas tanks on outboard motors, the threads around the filler hole and the cap

are damaged easily so that the tank can't be sealed against leaks. This trouble can be avoided by screwing a threaded sleeve of brass or bronze into the opening to take a brass cap. A small set screw in the shoulder of the tank locks the sleeve in place, and a vent valve from a car hotwater heater set into the cap serves as a tank vent.

-Myron L. Harmon, South Bend, Ind.

Needle Pushed in Heavy Cloth with Bent Spoon

When stitching canvas or other heavy material with a large needle, sore fingers may be avoided by using a spoon, bent to the shape shown, as a "palm thimble." The spoon bowl rests



comfortably in the palm of the hand where it is securely supported in place by the bent portion of the handle, which hooks over the side of the hand.

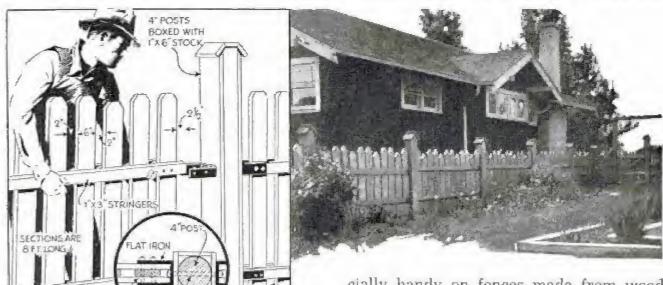
Strap Hinge Forms Boot Scraper That Swings Out of Way

A boot scraper that may be swung out of the way is provided by screwing a large strap hinge to the side of a step as indicated. When open, the loose half of the hinge assumes a horizontal position for scraping the shoes, while a kick of the foot swings it quickly to one side.



A kick of the foot swings this scraper to one side after you have cleaned your shoe soles

Back-Yard Fence Prefabricated in Spare Time



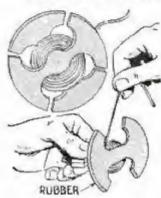
Inexpensive because it will outlast several fences built of pine, this pecky-cypress fence has withstood the weather for twelve years and is still sound. It was put together during spare time, being built up in 8-ft. sections, and attached to posts by means of U-shaped brackets as indicated. This method of construction is espe-

cially handy on fences made from wood that requires painting frequently, as it is possible to take the fence apart and refinish it indoors at night and during the winter months when the work cannot be done outside. A cheap grade of swamp cypress has the rot-resisting qualities of better cypress, and, when stained, is capable of withstanding the elements, yet takes on a weatherbeaten effect. Fir posts, set in concrete, were boxed in with the same wood and were capped as shown.

"Mezzanine" Shelves in Cabinet Show Articles at the Rear

Pantry and cabinet shelves that are so deep that articles at the rear are screened from view by those in front, can be improved with "mezzanine" shelves as indicated. These are ½-in, plywood with a section cut out of the center to provide space for tall pieces.

Rubber Reel for Extra Fishline



Fishermen who carry extra fishlines in their pockets will find that a reel cut from a piece of heavy inner tube as indicated, is lighter and less bunglesome than reels of wood or steel. The

line is wound through the slots, which close automatically to prevent unwinding.



Soiled Shirt Serves as Laundry Bag in Emergency



You can improvise a laundry bag quickly by pinning a shirt to a coat hanger as shown above

When traveling and there is no laundry bag at hand, a soiled shirt can be converted quickly to serve as an emergency one. Just pin the collar together with a safety pin, knot the sleeves and pin the tail of the shirt to a coat hanger.

This Homemade Turning Tool Handles Small Work

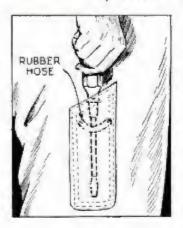
On a job of turning a quantity of miniature thole pins from hardwood, I found

Modelmakers will find this tool just the thing when shaping tiny turnings in a lathe

this specially shaped tool ideal for the work, especially in the initial rounding from the square stock. Ground to shape from round tool steel, the tool is strong and sturdy, is easily sharpened and may be used straight up, sideways or upside down without digging-in even in opengrain woods. When using the tool for rounding square stock turn a groove to the round at the extreme right side of the work and then hold the point at the angle shown, applying pressure toward the left or live center rather than straight against the turning. This gives a minimum of shock and vibration and a fast clean job.

-Harold Thompson, Westfield, N. J.

Screwdriver Held in Pocket by Rubber Tube

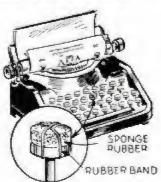


Electricians and others who carry a screwdriver in the leg pocket of their overalls, can avoid loss of the tool when climbing poles or ladders by slipping a piece of rubber tubing over it as indicated. The hose is slit in the

center and is impaled on the shaft of the tool and pushed into the pocket as shown,

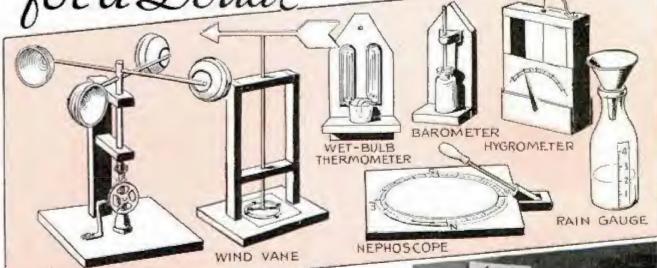
Typewriter Key Padded to Avoid Damaged Letter on Stencil

Typists who cut mimeograph stencils, and have trouble with some of the letters being cut so that they fall out of the stencil, will find that padding the keys that control these letters helps



to solve the problem. A disk of sponge rubber provides a good pad that is resilient and helps to absorb the pressure when the "touch" on the key is too hard. Rubber bands can be used to fasten the rubber temporarily in place.

Your Own WEATHER BUREAU for a Dollar



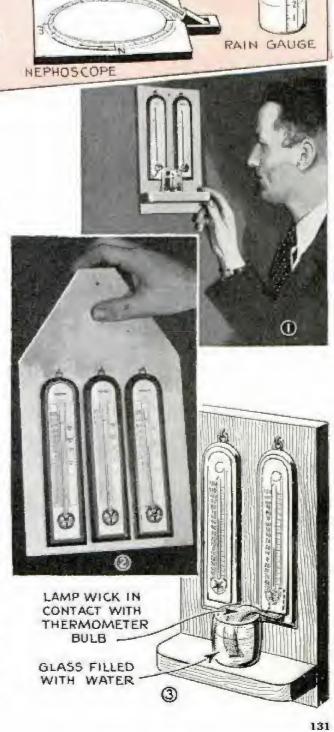
By JOSEPH P. DRISCOLL

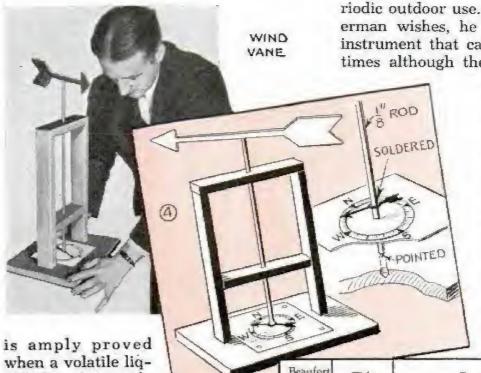
ANEMOMETER

FUN, useful information and even valuable data may be had with this easily made weather bureau. Although greatly simplified, the instruments combine practically all the essentials of professional equipment. With them you can make records of temperature, barometric pressure, rainfall, humidity, wind velocity and prevailing direction, measure the speed and drift of clouds, etc. Standard textbooks on the fundamentals of meteorology will be of help in reading the instruments, making up the proper scales, and arranging your records.

The accurate determination of temperature is one of the first essentials of good forecasting. Here, in place of investing in an accurately calibrated instrument, you employ three 10-cent thermometers, Fig. 2, and average their readings by totaling and dividing the sum by three. Make sure when taking the readings that your eye is level with the liquid in the tubes so that an accurate value will be recorded.

Moisture content is best determined by a wet-bulb thermometer, Figs. 1 and 3. The ability of the atmosphere to absorb moisture depends upon how much it already holds. Then evaporation is always attended by a lowering of temperature as





riodic outdoor use. If the amateur weatherman wishes, he may build himself an instrument that can be left outside at all times although there is little use of this

unless an inside recording mechanism is
also included. The
vane is provided with
an accurate, eightpoint scale and when
used, the N or north
point on the scale
should be pointed due
north. Along with the
wind vane you need
the anemometer to
measure the velocity
of the wind. Although
these instruments are

when a volatile liquid like ether or alcohol evaporates

from the palm of the hand. Therefore when a wick soaked in water is permitted to contact the bulb of a thermometer, the reading of that thermometer will always be slightly lower than that of one not fitted in this manner. If the air is dry, evaporation will be high and the temperature of the wet-bulb instrument will be much lower than an ordinary thermometer. As you will see from Fig. 3, the wet-bulb thermometer has a clean lamp wick in contact with the bulb. The free end of the wick is submerged in a small glass filled with water as shown. Any book

devoted to the weather will supply the proper scale to use with such an arrangement. The evaporometer, Fig. 7, is also an instrument used to check humidity but here only the amount of water that escapes into the air is recorded. An inverted test tube provided with a cork to which is attached a small piece of blotting paper comprises the instrument. A small needle hole is punched through the center of the cork to permit the water to reach the blotting paper which is in contact with the air.

Fig. 4 shows how you can make a calibrated wind vane for the purpose of recording the direction of the wind. This vane is intended only for occasional or pe-

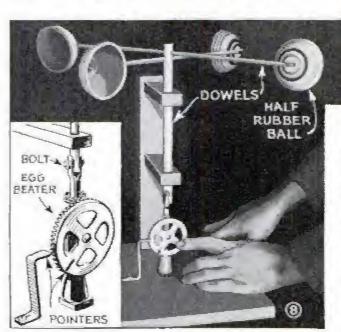
Beaufort Number	Title	Determination (5)	Speed in m.p.h.
0	Calm	Smoke rises vertically	0
1	Light air	Slight smoke drift	2
2	Slight breeze	Leaves rustle	5
3	Gende breeze	Wind extends light flag	10
4	Moderate breeze	Raises dust and light paper	15
5	Fresh breeze	Crested waves, trees sway slightly	21
6	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion, whistling wires	27
7	High wind	Whole trees in motion, difficult walking	35
8	Gale	Breaks twigs off teges	42
9	Strong gate	Slight damage, shingles, etc.	50
10	Whole gale	Trees uprooted, structural damage	59
11	Storm	Widespread damage	68
12	Huericane	Great damage, building destroyed	75 up

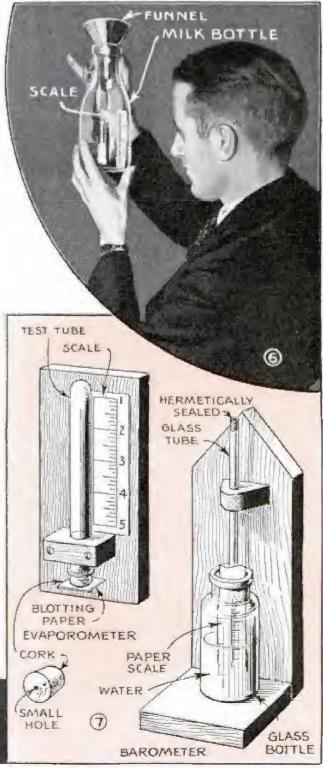
costly the amateur can make a good substitute with a 10-cent egg beater and two 10-cent rubber balls having a diameter of about 3 in. The balls are cut in half and mounted on the cross members with small machine screws, the whole thing being set up as in Fig. 8. The ratio of the gearing on the egg beater will have to be determined by counting the number of times the smaller gear turns during a single revolution of the larger gear. Then, if the large gear is marked with a black line, the user may, by the use of a watch, count the r.p.m. of the rotating rubber cups. The shaft is a 1/2-in. dowel soaked in hot paraffin to make it revolve in the wooden

bearings with a minimum of friction. It will be found necessary to cut half of the handle of the beater off after which it may be held to the baseboard with a wood screw. The instrument is not made for continuous outdoor service. Rather it should be carried out only when readings are to be taken. Velocities may be comparative or the builder may consult a book on the weather and employ a comparative table. The Beaufort scale, Fig. 5, is based on anemometer readings taken at a height of 33 ft. However, good comparisons may be had at lower levels if the readings are taken in open spaces. Under no circumstances should the anemometer be used in a sheltered spot near a building. Errors as high as 80 per cent would result.

The rain gauge, Fig. 6, is an exceptionally simple instrument but here the builder must be sure to employ a catch basin with a diameter the same as the large end of the funnel. A quart-size milk bottle will do very well if the diameter of the funnel at the top is the same as the inside diameter of the bottle. Even then a correction factor of 10 per cent must be added to compensate for the rain that splashes outside the funnel when it strikes. After each rain the contents should be measured and emptied. The figures should be placed in a notebook and totaled at the end of a season. The result will be surprisingly accurate and it should prove interesting to check with the local weather bureau.

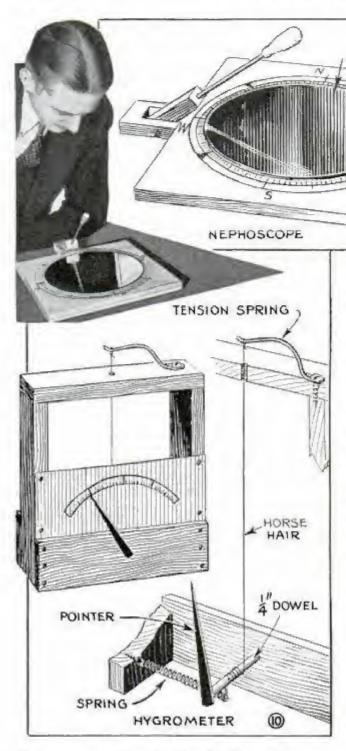
Atmospheric pressure is of great importance. The pressure on the surface of the





earth varies widely and hence must be measured, at least in a comparative way. The weatherman calls it barometric pressure and he checks its variations from day to day with a sensitive instrument. However, the amateur can make a practical barometer as in Fig. 7. A small glass tube with a ¼ or ½-in. bore, a bottle and two pieces of stock are all that is needed in the way of materials. One end of the tube is sealed either by melting the glass together or by the use of a cork and sealing wax.

MIRROR



When in position in the holder, the open end of the tube is held under the surface of the water in the bottle and the changing pressure forces the water up into the tube to a degree depending upon the change. Comparative readings are taken by the use of a small scale calibrated in millimeters. Evaporated water should be replaced.

Changes in barometric pressure are invariably followed by changes in humidity and this is measured with a hygrometer, Fig. 10. Here a horse hair is used because of its sensitivity to changes in the moisture content of the air. The mechanical construction of the instrument is very

clearly shown in the detail. The hair is wound around a small dowel (several turns will do) which is free to turn and which carries a pointer running over a scale. The spring should be just strong enough to keep the hair gently taut. Another simpler way of making this instrument is to suspend the horse hair in the same manner

but omit the lower spring and use a pointer of sufficient weight to keep the horse hair taut. This means that the pointer will stand in a position of approximately 45° with the horizontal so that its weight will maintain a constant tension on the hair.

Not many amateur weather bureaus contain a nephoscope, yet this instrument is easily made and any book on meteorology will describe its use and importance in measuring the velocity of clouds. The basis of the instrument involves a 9-in. round mirror. The scale used is nothing but a compass scale and may be copied from one. Naturally comparisons must be made with some stationary object and this is supplied by a wooden or metal knob mounted at the end of a rod and resting over the middle of the mirror as in Fig. 9.

Stirring Spoon Clipped on Pan with Clothespin

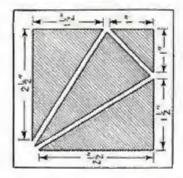
There will be no messy spoons that have slipped into a hot kettle of preserves or jelly, if you use this holder, which clips right over the edge of the container. It's an ordinary



spring-type clothespin which has the upper ends of the legs notched to support a spoon as shown in the photo.

¶The odor of stale tobacco smoke can be removed from a room by placing a few drops of oil of lavender in a bowl and adding two or three cupfuls of hot water.

Can You Solve This Puzzle?



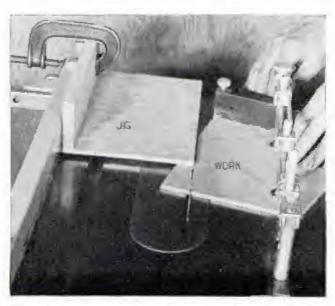
Take a piece of thin wood or heavy cardboard 2½ in. square and saw it into four pieces as indicated. Then jumble the pieces and see how many of your friends can put

them together. You will be surprised at what a sticker it is for someone who does not know the secret.

-O. M. Chase, East St. Louis, Ill.

Jig to Cut Irregular Work in Circular Saw

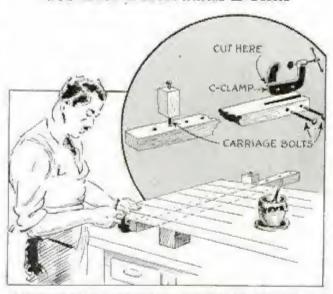
Serving as a straightedge in lining up work with irregular edges in a circular saw, this jig will enable you to make cuts accurately that were usually a matter of guesswork. The jig consists of a piece of plywood to which is nailed a strip of ½-in. stock so that it can be clamped to the rip fence of the saw, raising the jig above the table sufficiently to allow the work to pass under it. In use, the outer edge of the jig



There's no guesswork with this jig when work having irregular edges is cut in a circular saw

is alined with the saw blade, after which the mark on the work indicating the cut to be made is placed directly under the edge of the jig. Then the work is clamped in the miter gauge in this position and run through the saw.

Four-Foot Woodworkers' Clamp for Less Than Half Dollar



Clamps of this type are so inexpensive that you can make several for the cost of one of the usual type

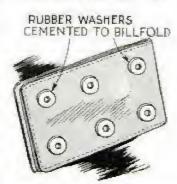
A C-clamp from the dime store, a piece of fir wood 1¾ in, square by 4 ft, long and a few carriage bolts comprise this clamp. Saw off the lower jaw of the C-clamp and drill two holes in the remaining portion. Then fit it in a slot in the end of the wood and bolt it in place. The adjustable end of the clamp consists of a bolt run through a block of wood, which is set in one of several holes drilled in the fir stock to get the desired width.

-Henry Sauer, Rochester, N. Y.

Rubber Washers on Billfold Help Prevent Loss

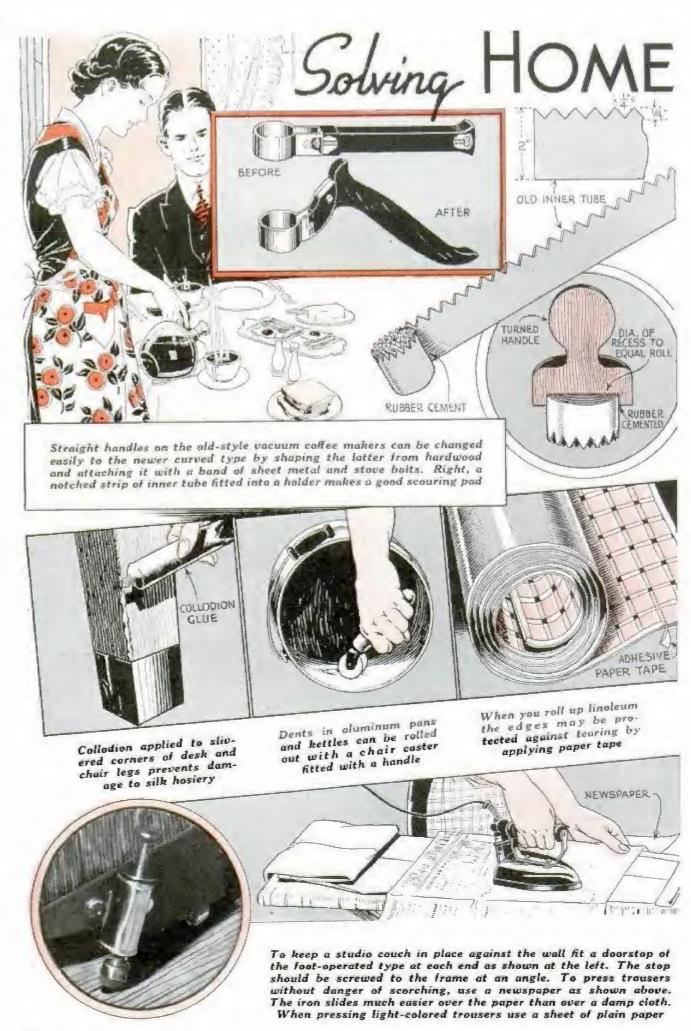
Cemented to one side of a billfold or wallet, several rubber washers uniformly spaced will help prevent it from acciden-

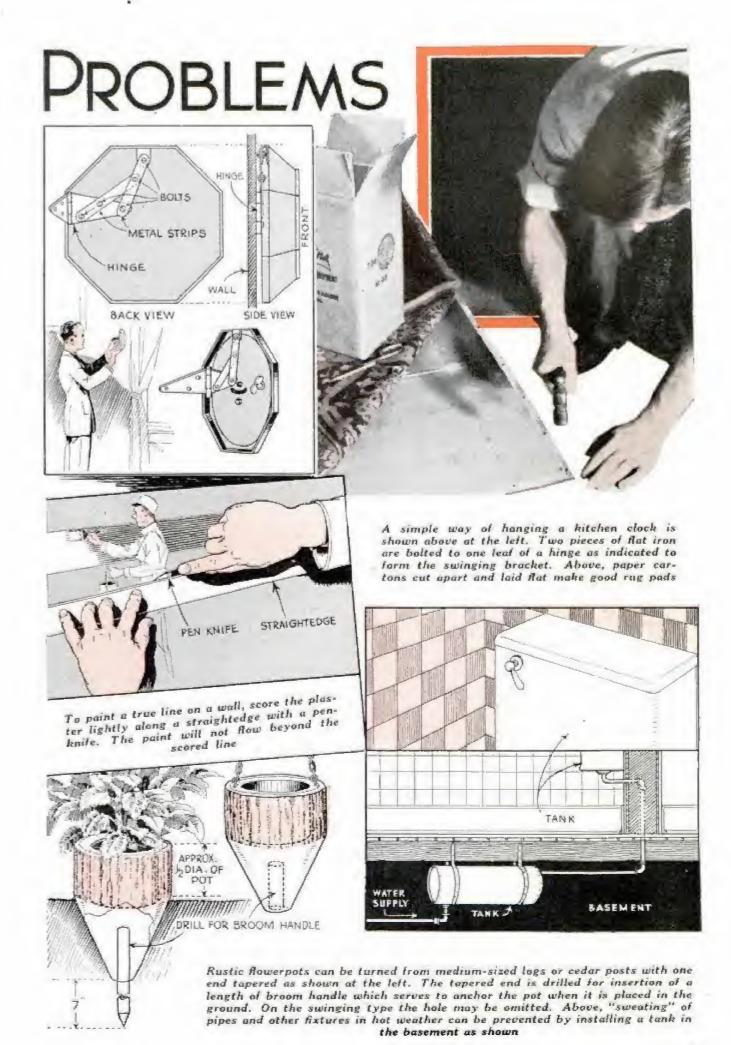
tally slipping out of your pocket when you run or stoop. The surfaces of the washers provide friction against the pocket lining. When using rubber cement for the purpose, apply a



thin coat to both purse and washers and when this is dry apply another coat, allowing this to dry partly before pressing the washers in place.

—Opie Read, Jr., Chicago.





Wire Wedge Spreads Saw Cut When Ripping Long Work

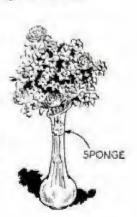


To spread the saw cut when ripping long work is a simple matter of swinging the tool to one side

Bent to the shape indicated and fitted with a handle, a length of heavy wire provides a handy follower wedge to spread the saw cut and prevent binding when ripping long boards. The end of the wedge is slipped into the cut and the handle is moved to one side until the loop can be slipped over the edge of the work.

Sponge in Neck of Flower Vase Prevents Spilling Water

When a bunch of longstemmed flowers is put in a vase, it's a good idea to work a small sponge down into the neck of the vase around the stems. Then if the container is upset, the sponge will tend to keep the water from spilling. Use a dry sponge so air can circulate through it.



Venetian Blinds to Dress Up Your Windows



SAND BOX AND WADING POOL-708: Pool is canvas-lined, 12 by 36 by 45 in. Great fun for children. 25c.

TRELLIS SUGGESTIONS-639: Six types that will help beautify your home. 25c.

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Any six of these blueprints will be sent postpaid upon receipt of \$1.00

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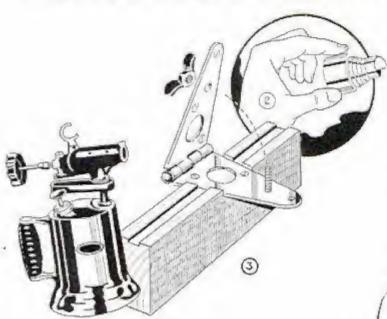


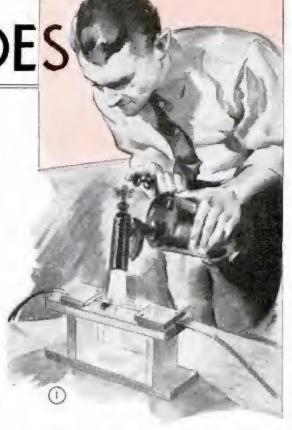
Brazing BANDSAW BLADES

By WAYNE C. LECKEY

BY USING an ordinary blowtorch to furnish the required heat, the home craftsman easily can do a good job of bandsaw brazing right in his own workshop at a considerable saving of both time and expense. Just about the minimum of equipment is needed, a torch, clamping jig, soft, fusible spelter and borax for flux.

First of all, a jig must be made to hold the blade in perfect alinement while brazing the ends. This can be improvised readily from a block of hardwood as shown in Fig. 1. The block is grooved lengthwise to take the blade flush with the surface. A large hole is bored through the center of the block to allow the flame to pass around the blade without burning the wood. The jig is then mounted as shown, and small blocks drawn down with screws hold the ends of the blade securely in place. A more serviceable clamp for heavier blades which tends to hold

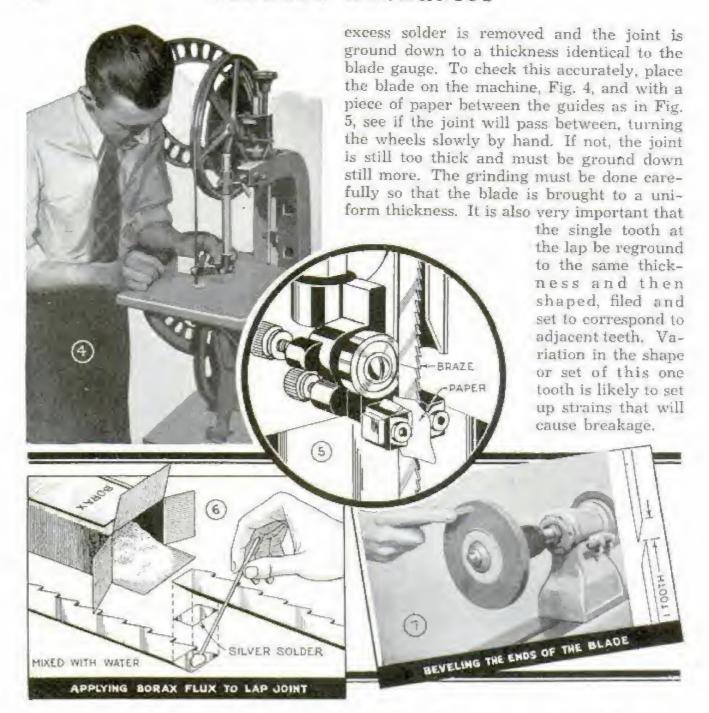




the work securely near the braze is shown in Fig. 3. As you can see, this makes use of a common strap hinge set at right angles to the groove for the blade in a larger block of wood with openings provided to admit the flame. The ends of the blade are held by the two leaves of the hinge.

The broken blade is made ready for brazing by squaring the ends and beveling each the distance of one tooth as shown in Fig. 7, so that when lapped they will match to form a single tooth. As it is important that the work be thoroughly clean, avoid touching the surfaces with your fingers once they are ground. Bandsaw blades should be brazed with silver solder which melts at a low temperature. This is available in a thin foil and is used from the center of the

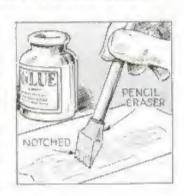
O & E Ingishall



roll as in Fig. 2. With the blade in the clamping jig, dissolve some borax crystals in a glass of water and paint the joint with this solution. A piece of silver solder a trifle larger than the lap is placed between as in Fig. 6. Keep this free of oil by handling it on the edges. Pump the torch with sufficient air to give a strong, hot flame and direct the latter onto the joint as in Fig. 1. When the blade becomes a cherry red in color, you will notice the edges of the solder begin to curl and melt an instant before the center softens. When the solder runs out of the joint, draw the torch flame away slowly. Removing the heat suddenly is apt to harden the blade and cause it to break. When the work cools,

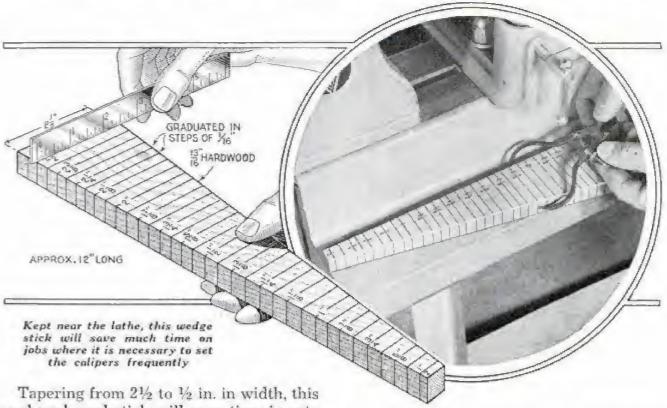
Glue Brush from Pencil Eraser

A handy brush for spreading glue is made easily by cutting a number of notches in the end of a pencil eraser of the type shown. This gives you a toothed edge against the work and helps avoid



the tendency to apply too much glue as only the ends of the teeth are in contact with the work. The same idea is also applicable as an acid swab when soldering.

Wedge Stick for Setting Your Calipers Quickly



Tapering from 2½ to ½ in. in width, this wedge-shaped stick will save time in setting calipers as all you do is to hold the legs at the desired division line and tighten them against the sides of the stick. It is made of hardwood and the division lines

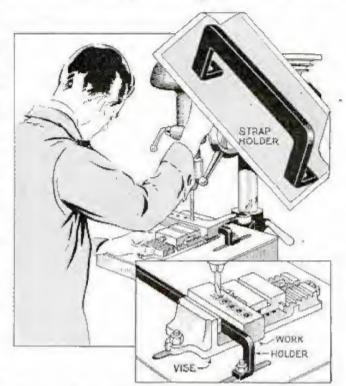
are spaced so that they vary progressively 1/16 in. in length, the lines being drawn with black waterproof ink.

-Howard R. Heydorf, Missoula, Mont.

Drill-Press Vise Holder Eliminates Adjusting the Table

Here's a holder for a drill-press vise that enables you to drill a number of holes in line without shifting the work in the vise jaws. Both the vise and work are moved as a unit along the holder. This saves time, especially when drilling work that has bosses, shoulders or other projections so that it's difficult to reset the work, making it necessary to adjust the table after drilling each hole. The holder is a piece of flat iron bent as indicated and bolted in the slots of the table. Both the holder and work are clamped in the vise, the jaws of which are loosened slightly to shift the assembly. If the number and location of the table slots permit, the work can be moved to and from the operator by slightly loosening the bolts.

¶You can tighten the springs in windowshade rollers with a table fork; just slip the flattened end of the spring roller between two tines and turn the fork.



Once work is clamped in this vise, adjustments for various holes are made by shifting the assembly

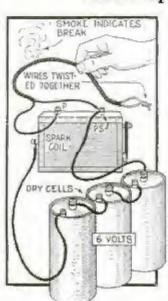
Brace Wires on Corner Posts Anchored to Brake Drums



Brake drams provide good anchors for fence-post brace wires as they do not pull out of the ground

Fastened to the brace wires of corner fence posts and buried in the ground, old auto brake drums provide better anchors than stakes or stones. The drums do not pull out of the ground, do not decay rapidly and are little affected by alternate freezing and thawing of the ground.

Locating Breaks in Electric Cords with a Spark Coil



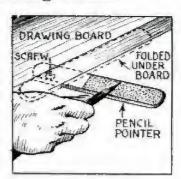
When one of the wires of an electric cord is broken, the break can be found often by twisting the wires together at one end of the cord and connecting the other end to a vibrator coil, such as used on model-T Fords. The connection is made as indicated, using three or four dry cells or a storage

battery. The high-tension current passing through the cord will are across the break in the wire, heating the insulation and causing it to smoke.

-W. C. Wilhite, Carlinville, Ill.

Pencil Pointer Swings under Your Drawing Board

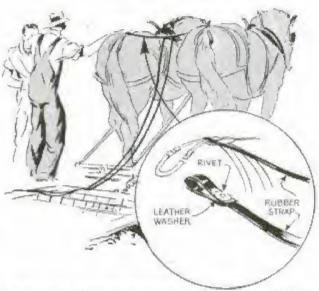
Rather than have a sandpaper pencil pointer lying on his drawing board, where it is likely to soil papers, one draftsman finds a piece of sandpaper glued to a strip of wood



and pivoted to the underside of the drawing board handy. It swings out of the way when not in use so that there is no possibility of it soiling the work.

Rubber Strap Between Horses Prevents Tangled Lines

When a team of horses are used to move loads by means of a cable attached to the doubletrees, there is constant danger of the lines dropping down between the

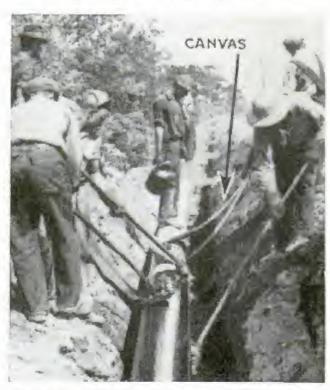


Lines can't drop between team and get tangled under the singletrees when this cross strap is used

horses, when not in use, and becoming tangled. If a strip of rubber cut from an inner tube is attached to the back strap of each harness, the lines will rest on this. The elasticity of the strap prevents dislodgment of the harness straps should the team spread apart slightly.



Simple Method of Painting Pipe to Be Laid Underground



Strips wrapped once around pipe and pulled back and forth apply paint poured from can

A good way to paint large pipe cheaply and quickly, before putting it underground, is to use two strips of canvas about 15 in. wide and as long as convenient to handle. Pieces of wood fastened to the ends serve as hand grips. One strip is thrown ever the top of the pipe with the ends passing underneath, and the other strip is put on in a reverse position. A man with a spout-can applies paint to the strips and to the pipe. As the ends of the strips are moved back and forth the pipe is painted.—W. V. Garrett, Norwood, Pa.

Keeping Cats Out of Birdhouse

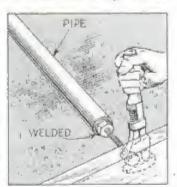


When cats climb up a birdhouse standard or tree to get at the nests, take a length of stovepipe and slip it over the standard or tree trunk as indicated. As the surface of the pipe is hard, a cat cannot use its paws to climb it. If the standard is too large or too small for the pipe, a piece of sheet metal may be substituted.

-August Karvonen, Wainola, Mich.

Adjustable Brace Has Many Uses

Lengths of pipe with nuts welded over the ends and bolts threaded into them make handy braces for the interior of concrete forms, braces for mine timbers and similar uses. The



braces are adjusted by running the bolts in or out of the nuts, and if stud bolts are used, two lengths of pipe can be connected by screwing two nuts onto one bolt.

—Jos. C. Coyle, Yuma, Ariz.

Rope Run Through High Pulley with Aid of Fishing Rod

When a hay rope breaks and slips from a pulley which is suspended outside the gable of the barn room, don't endanger your life and limb trying to climb up and rethread it. Instead, obtain a long fishing

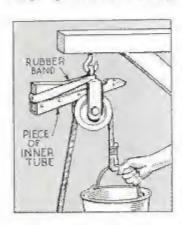


Push end of rod through pulley, unreel line to the ground and tie rope end to it and reel in the line

rod with reel and line attached. Push the rod through the pulley, unreel the line to reach the ground and tie the rope end to it. Then reel in the line, pulling the rope through the pulley.

Brake for Hoisting Pulley

On roof repair jobs, one workman usually operates a hoist, which makes it ad-



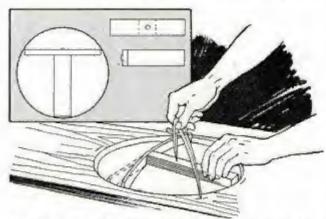
visable to have a brake on the pulley to prevent possible accidents should the rope slip from the hands of the operator. One of the simplest brakes consists of a tapered block which fits in the pulley as indicated. A

stout rubber band cut from an old inner tube holds the block in place. A facing of rubber will make the brake more effective.

Removable Center for Large Hole Supports Compass or Dividers

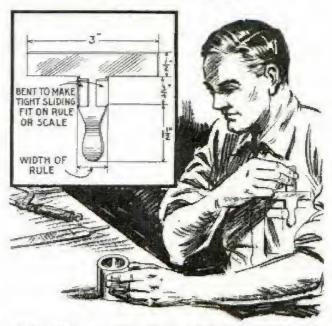
As an improvement over the usual method of providing a hole with a removable center by using a square piece of wood which is driven into place snugly, this T-shaped center is easily put in position or removed. It consists of two pieces of wood, a length of square stock and a springy crosspiece, nailed or screwed together. In use, the thin piece is placed in the hole first, and is pressed back until the square piece enters.

-Harry Moore, Leeds, England.



When it is necessary to rest one leg of a compass in the center of a hole, this removable support is useful

Gauge on Steel Pocket Rule Has Several Uses



When fitted to your steel pocket rule, this sliding metal "T" serves as a depth gauge, square and clip

By cutting and bending a piece of mild spring brass as shown in the detail, you can make a sliding fixture for a steel pocket rule which will act as a depth gauge, a square and a pocket clip. The sheet brass is cut in the form of a T with two short projections, or "ears," which are bent to make a tight, sliding fit over the rule. The leg of the T is trimmed to the shape indicated and serves as a pocket clip.

-A. H. Waychoff, Tempe, Ariz.

Lathe Gears Stored in Pigeonhole Cabinet Are Quickly Selected

If your lathe is of the standard-gear type, and you find that the usual gear

bracket is an inconvenient method of handling the gears, build a small cabinet having a number of pigeonholes, one for each gear. The gear numbers can be typewritten on slips of paper and tacked or glued to



the edges of the compartments, covering them with clear varnish to protect the lettering against obliteration by grease and dirt.—Lewis Condon, Brookfield, Mo.

X796

Wind-Driven GENERATOR



parts of the generator. The first step is to remove the gear. Next, remove the screws that hold the end plate, and remove in turn the armature or rotating part, the field coils and pole pieces, and the brush assembly. The armature must be stripped entirely of its wiring. To remove the fiber wedges that hold the armature coils in place, first tap them against the wire to loosen them and then drive them out with a hammer and a blunt piece of wood or metal. Cut all the wires near the commutator, and then locate the coil that was

wound last, which is the only coil that is not covered by some of the other winding. Remove this coil, one turn at a time, and proceed to remove the other coils, one after the other, in the same way. After all the wire has been removed, pull the old insulation from the slots and saw the wire and solder from the commutator bars, as in Fig. 6. This is done with a short piece of a hacksaw blade. A convenient jig for holding the armature while it is

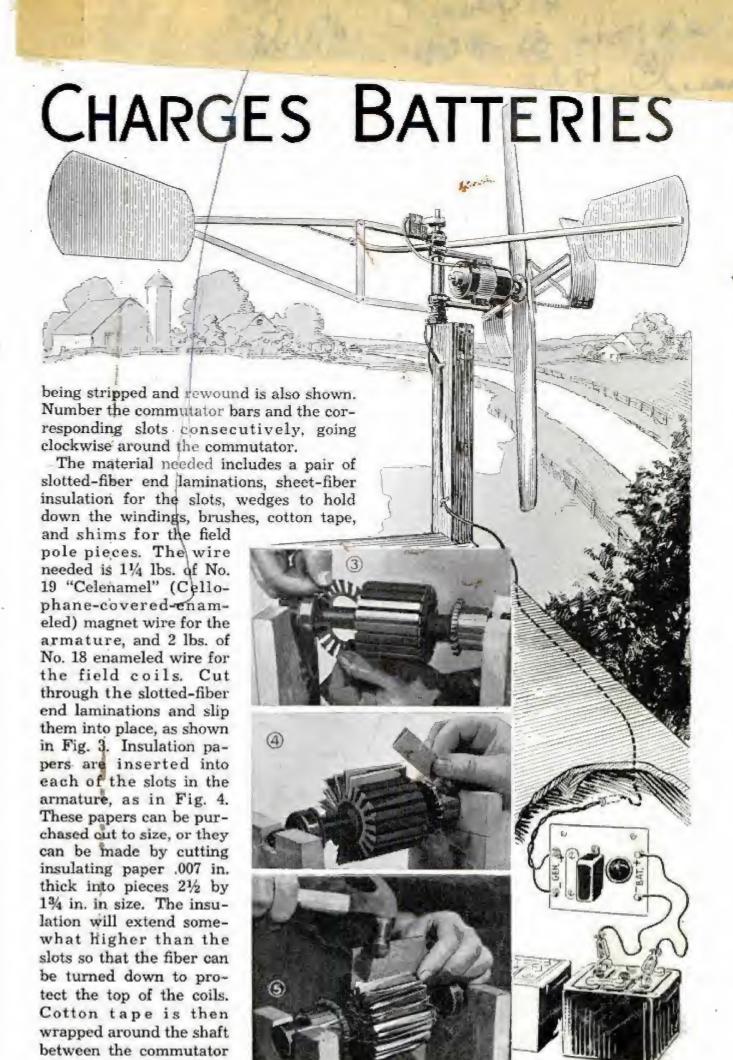
21 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 COMMUTATOR - SEGMENY NUMBERS COMMUTATOR - SEGMENY NUMBERS HOW # 1, 2, AND 6 COILS ARE WOUND STEP BAR SLOT NUMBERS SLOT 6

By C. A. CROWLEY

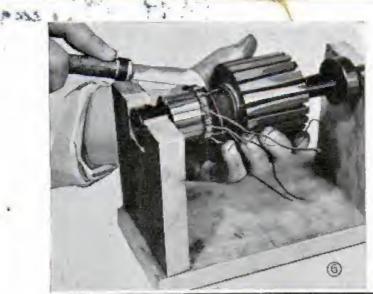
COSTING little to build and practically nothing to operate, this power plant charges radio batteries. A 6-ft. propeller is coupled to a rebuilt Ford model-T generator, which is rewound so that it will start charging at about 290 r.p.m. The use of a simple governing device prevents excessive speed.

The photo above shows the various

STEP	FROM	OUT THROUGH	IN THROUGH	END AT
	BAR	SLOT	SLOT	BAR
12345678901123456789021	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 3 14 15 16 17 18 19 2 2 19 2 2 19 2 2 2 19 2 2 2 19 2 2 2 2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 23 14 5 16 17 8 9 20 21 2	8 9 101 12 13 15 16 17 18 19 20 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1123145678990



and the armature. One



TOUCH TO EACH BAR IN TURN HIO-VOLT LINE TEST INSULATED HANDLE POINT! BRASS ROD SOLDERED TO WIRE 25-W. LAMPS LIGHT IF COIL IS GROUNDED TESTING ARMATURE FOR GROUNDS TEST POINTS ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF COMMUTATOR N-OIL LINE 25-W. LAMPS TOUCH TO EACH PAIR OF BARS TESTING COMPLETED ARMATURE FOR SHORTS HEADPHONES BUZZ (A.C.) OR CLICK (D.C.) UNLESS COILS ARE SHORTED

or two layers of the tape will be sufficient.

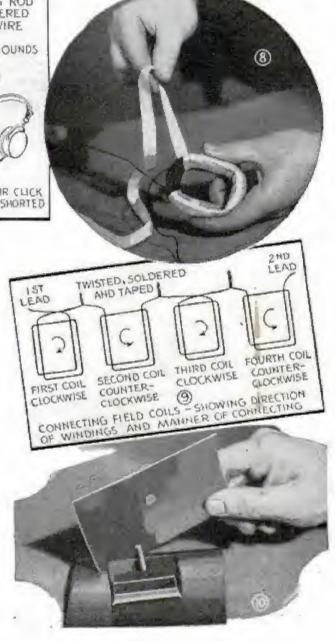
The loose end of the Celenamel No. 19 wire is inserted into the slot of commutator bar No. 1, so that the wire extends outside the riser of the commutator about an inch for convenience when attaching this wire permanently. As shown in Fig. 1, this wire is now led out through slot 3, back through slot 8, out again through slot 3, continuing until exactly seventeen turns have been laid in these two slots. The loose end of the wire is then brought over to commutator bar 11, and cut off, allowing about 4 in. excess. It now should be folded temporarily on top of the coil just wound and tagged as No. 11. Next start with bar 2, wind 17 turns in slots 4 and 9, and lead the loose end to bar 12, where the wire is cut and folded back out of the way and labeled No. 12. Continue in this manner, as indicated in the winding diagram, Fig. 1, and in the chart Fig. 2, until all the

coils have been wound. When winding the sixth and following coils, you will be laying wire on top of a finished coil. It may be necessary in these cases to press down the original coil to make room. This is done as shown in Fig. 5, by pressing down with a blunt piece of 1/8-in. hard-pressed board or fiber. After laying the second coil in each slot, press down the wire, fold over the insulation, and insert a wooden slot wedge such as was removed when clearing the armature of its original winding. Continue winding until all the coils have been completed. As each coil is finished, it is wise to test it for grounds and

shorts, using the methods indi-

cated in Fig. 7.

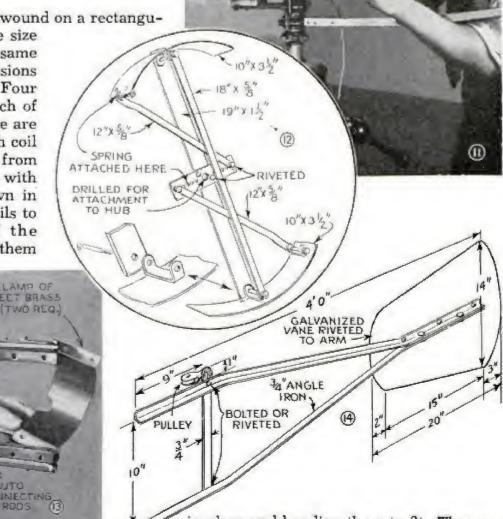
When all the coils have been wound and tested, the moon-

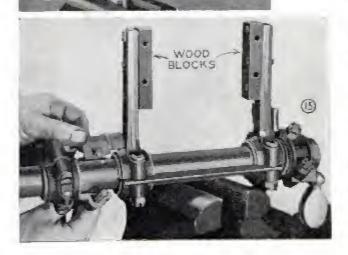


shaped end insulation paper is laid over the ends of the coils at the commutator. The loose ends of the coils are placed in the proper grooves in the commutator bars, and a few turns of twine are wrapped around the wires a little back of the commutator to hold them in place. The wires are then soldered to the commutator bars. Test the armature again for grounds and shorts. The entire assembly is now saturated with insulating varnish or shellac and allowed to dry.

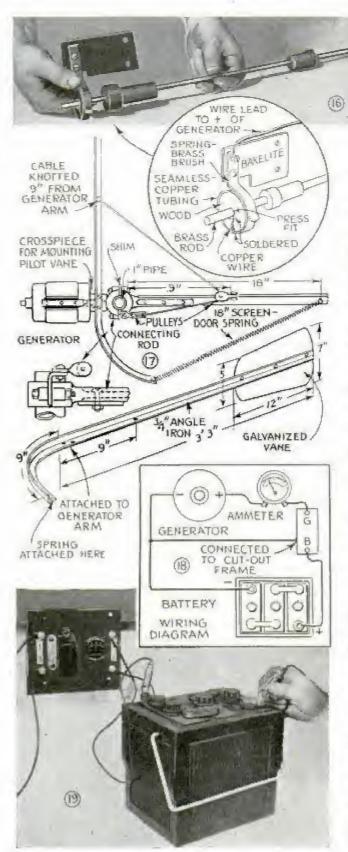
The field coils are wound on a rectangu-

lar form, Fig. 10, the size of which will be the same as the inside dimensions of the old field coils. Four coils of 125 turns each of No. 18 enameled wire are required. When each coil is finished, remove it from the form and bind it with cotton tape, as shown in Fig. 8. Shape the coils to fit the contour of the frame by inserting them





in place and bending them to fit. Then remove them and impregnate with varnish or shellac. When dry, connect them in series as indicated in Fig. 9 and put them in position, inserting the pole pieces and shims. The first and third coils are to be connected so that their turns are wound clockwise and the second and fourth counterclockwise. The generator now can be assembled with new brushes in the positions occupied by the old brushes. The ungrounded generator terminal is connected to the main insulated brush. One field lead, either one, is connected to the third brush, and the other field lead to the grounded main brush. Connect the gen-



erator to a power supply and run it for a moment as a motor, noting the direction of rotation. If it rotates clockwise, viewed from the front, leave the connections as they are. If it rotates counterclockwise, reverse the field lead connections, so the lead which had been grounded is connected to the third brush, and vice versa. The shaft on which the outfit is mounted is an 18-in. length of 1-in. pipe. The arms on which the generator and the vanes swing are fastened to the shaft with Ford model-T connecting rods, which serve as swivels. The small

bearing is sawed off and the large bearing is reamed or filed out to fit the pipe. The large end of one connecting rod is sawed off and tightly bolted around the shaft at a point 11 in. from the top. This will serve as a bearing for the swivel arms above it. The main vane is cut from galvanized sheet metal to the dimensions shown in Fig. 14. The arm is 4 ft. long and is made as shown from 3/4-in, angle iron. The vane is riveted to the arm, which is fastened later to the connecting-rod swivels with 1/4-in. bolts. Blocks of wood, 5/8 by 31/2 in., are bolted to the other two connecting rods as in Fig. 15. The generator will be attached to these blocks with two sheetmetal bands, as shown in Fig. 13, which are 2½ in, wide and shaped to fit the generator. The generator swivel arms now can be mounted on the shaft and the bolts drawn tight, using shims to permit the assembly to revolve freely. Strap-iron strips, 1/8 by 71/2 in., are used as shims, as can be seen in Fig. 15. Additional shims cut from light-gauge metal can be used as needed. The lower end of the heavy shim extends a little below the bottom of the lower swivel and acts as a stop to hold the generator and the main vane in the proper relative positions. The vane swivel arm is mounted in the same manner. A piece of 1/8-in. metal, bent as shown in Fig. 15, is used as the shim on the lower right-hand joint. This engages the long shim on the generator frame and holds the generator and the vane in alinement in a moderate wind. The vane and generator next can be bolted in place.

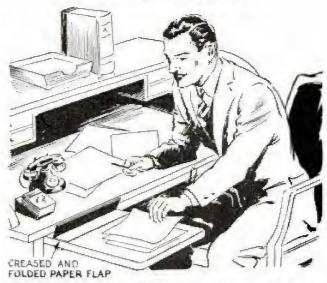
There are two automatic controls to prevent too high a charging rate. The automatic governor, Fig. 12, controls the generator at moderate wind velocities. Centrifugal force causes the curved vanes to move outward, and their wind resistance prevents excessive speed. The mechanism should be balanced accurately at the hub. When wind velocities get too high for the centrifugal governor to be effective, the pilot vane control comes into play. The di-

mensions of the vane and the angle-iron support are given in Fig. 17. This assembly is rigidly attached to the upper generator arm with two bolts or machine screws. The short end of the angle-iron support is fastened to the main vane arm with an 18-in, spring. A flexible steel cable is fastened to the pilot-vane support 9 in. from the generator and run over the two pulleys as shown in Figs. 11 and 17. When the wind gets strong, its force against the pilot vane will be so great that the vane will be forced back and will pull the generator and propeller partly out of the wind, or even at right angles to a violent wind. When the batteries are fully charged, pulling the cable will also take the propeller out of the wind.

Electric current is conducted from the rotating generator assembly to stationary wires by means of slip rings. A 2-ft. length of %-in. brass rod is run up the center of the main shaft. Turned plugs, of hardwood or preferably Bakelite, at the top and bottom of the pipe hold the rod in place. See Fig. 16. If the plugs are wood, they must be waterproofed by soaking them in melted paraffin wax for an hour. Rubber stoppers, such as are used in chemical laboratories, can be substituted. A copper disk, about 1 in. in diameter and 1/2 in. thick, and drilled to admit a press fit of the brass rod, will serve as a slip ring. This must fit tightly on the rod as shown in Fig. 16. The disk may be wood covered with a ring of 16-gauge or heavier copper. A brush of 16-gauge spring brass, 1/2 in. wide and curved to fit the slip ring, and mounted on Bakelite, carries the current from the generator to the slip ring. The other side of the generator circuit is grounded to the frame.

The wiring diagram is shown in Fig. 18. Heavy insulated wires should be used and all connections should be soldered to insure permanence. The ammeter and cutout can be mounted at any convenient point. The cutout can be one from an automobile, or better, a special cutout designed for a wind-generator system. A panel board as seen in Fig. 19 is a convenient means for mounting cutout, ammeter and binding posts. When everything is ready, mount the propeller on the generator shaft and install the governor, and the system is ready to operate.

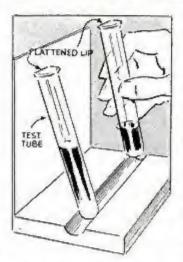
Loss of Papers on Desk Slide Is Easily Prevented



The folded paper will keep the work on the desk slide from dropping into a drawer below

Loss of papers by leaving them on a desk slide when it is pushed in so that they drop into a drawer or compartment below, when it is pulled out, can be prevented with a folded piece of paper. This is glued to the slide near the rear edge so that it keeps the papers from slipping off.

Lip on Test Tube Flattened to Avoid Rolling

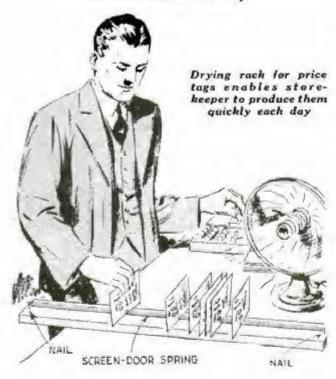


If the lip of a test tube is flattened slightly, it may be leaned against a vertical surface or laid on a flat one without rolling. The lip can be flattened by heating the glass in a gas flame and then pressing it against a flat metal surface, preferably one

that is hot. Do not bend the lip so much that it is impossible to fit a cork into the mouth of the tube.

■Brightly colored fingernail polish is excellent for marking dishes and pans that are to be sent out of the home; when the utensils are returned, the markings can be taken off with polish remover.

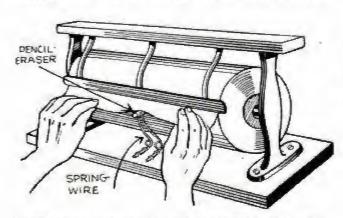
Price Tags Held in Coil Spring Are Dried Easily



In order to dry price tags quickly after printing them, one storekeeper stretched a screen-door spring between two nails driven into a board and inserted the cards between the coils of the spring. This kept the cards separated so that heat from an electric radiant heater quickly dried them. The board and spring also enabled him to carry the entire bunch of cards around the store and select the ones needed at a glance.—E. S. Newlon, Council Bluffs, Ia.

Rubber Finger Lifts End of Paper from Roll in Rack

Tendency of the end of paper to stick to the roll, when mounted in a rack as indicated, can be avoided with this rubber

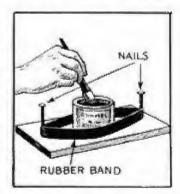


Storekeepers can save time by using this rubber finger to keep the end of wrapping paper from sticking

finger, which bears against the roll and forces the paper end away as the roll is rotated. The finger is merely a length of spring wire pushed through a rubber pencil eraser and then bent to the shape indicated, after which it is attached to the base of the rack with staples.

Non-Tip Carrier for Paint Can

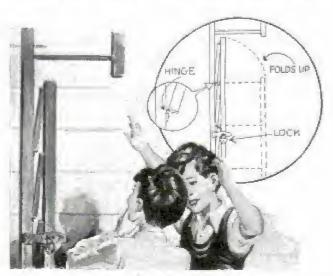
Any danger of tipping over a small paint can is minimized if you support it with this simple holder. It consists of a small board in which two nails are driven 7 or 8 in. apart, the nails



projecting to take a wide rubber band cut from an old inner tube. When a can is set between the nails, the band grips it.

Folding Ladder on Water Tower to Keep Children Off

To prevent children from climbing to dangerous heights on a municipal water tower, one local official recommended al-



Lower portion of ladder on water tower folds up so that small children can't climb it

tering the ladder on the tower so that the lower part could be folded. This was done by using steps in place of rounds, each one being hinged at both ends so that one side could be lifted and locked to the other side as shown in the sketch.



gives exposure time from color negatives

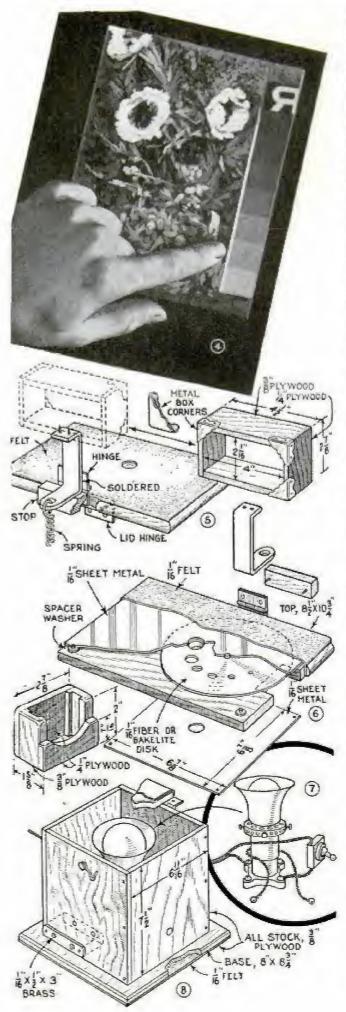
By WILLIAM MAYOH

GETTING the correct exposure time for prints that are to be made from three-color separation negatives is a simple and accurate process with this density meter, which eliminates all guesswork. It may be used in making bromides for the carbro process, positives for wash-off reliefs, chromatone prints, etc. Anyone having a good photoelectric exposure meter can build the outfit at home in spare time at slight expense.

It consists essentially of a box containing an electric lamp the brilliancy of which can be controlled by means of a dimmer socket. The hinged lid of the box has a small hole in the center, over which the exposure meter can be brought by swinging down a hinged arm to which the meter is attached. A pivoted fiber, Bakelite or metal disk on the lid has a num-

ber of holes of graduated sizes ranging from 1/16 to 3/8 in. in diameter, all of the holes being centered on a circle scribed from the center of the disk. The disk is located so that turning it will bring each hole directly over the hole in the lid, thus controlling the amount of light striking the face of the exposure meter. A snap switch

should be mounted in a convenient position on the outside of the box. A careful study of the illustrations will show the exact arrangement. Fig. 1 shows the exposure meter brought down on a negative while Fig. 2 displays the interior of the light box showing a lamp housed in a small reflector; also the hole in the center of the lid and two lengths of chain from the dimmer socket projecting from the front of the box. Fig. 3 shows the expo-



sure meter held out of the way on the hinged arm.

Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive show constructional details. Any high-quality exposure meter of the photoelectric cell type will serve. It is held in a wooden frame attached to the hinged arm. Fig. 5 shows a dimensioned frame designed for one type of exposure meter, while at the left of Fig. 6 a frame designed to hold another type is shown. The arm that holds the meter has a small coil spring attached to keep it in a vertical position when released. Plywood is handy material from which to make the box and lid. The latter has a notch on one side so that the operator can insert his finger here to turn the disk. A piece of sheet metal is tacked or screwed to the underside of the lid to dissipate heat from the lamp. Also, a piece of sheet metal is mounted on the lid and spaced above the latter by means of washers to permit the disk to turn freely. Then, a piece of felt is glued to the metal so that negatives can be slid over it without scratching the emulsion side.

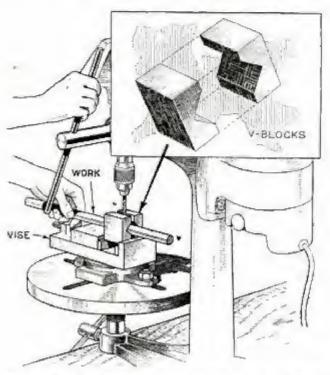
In taking photos for color work, every negative should include a gray scale somewhere to one side as indicated in Fig. 4. The scale is placed directly over the hole in the lid of the light box and then the disk is revolved until you arrive at the right opening to match your gray scale on the negative, after which the meter is lowered directly on the negative and the brilliancy of the light is increased or decreased by means of the dimmer socket until the meter reads, let us say, 65. You now place the negative between the meter and the cabinet and take two readings, one from the dense end of the gray scale and one from the light end. Make a note of this and do the same with the red and yellow printer negatives. As an example let us say that your readings are somewhere in this order as you read them: Blue negative, 6 and 30; red negative, 10 and 40; yellow negative, 8 and 24. You now have all the information you can obtain from the density meter, providing your light did not fluctuate. This you can control by reading the meter only between the reading of your negatives and keeping it at the same value with the aid of the dimmer socket.

And now for the benefit of those who

do not understand how to get exposures on bromide paper from these readings: Take your blue negative first and make a test print in your enlarger. We will say your exposure was 5 seconds at f:8. This test determines the exposures of the red and yellow negatives. For instance, with the blue negative meter reading at 6 and 30, the red negative reading being 10 and 40, and the yellow negative reading being 8 and 24, you subtract the reading of the dense end of the scale from that of the light end and you get these figures: 24 for blue, 30 for red, and 16 for yellow. Now multiply 24 on blue by 5 seconds which gives you 120. Now divide 120 by the 30 for the red and you have 4 seconds as your exposure for red, and similarly divide 120 by the 16 for the yellow, which gives 71/2 seconds as the exposure for yellow.

Using Two V-Blocks as Drill Jig

Whenever I have a hole to drill in round stock, I set up a pair of V-blocks as indicated. This method does away with both difficulties connected with the use of

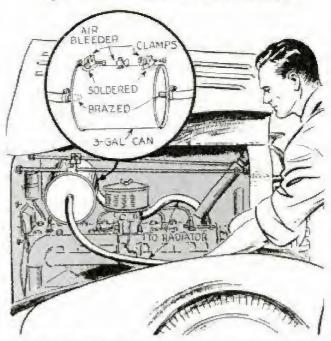


Two V-blocks clamped in vise hold rough work so it can be drilled through without damaging blocks

V-blocks—centering the work under the drill and providing clearance underneath so that the hole can be drilled right through without drilling into the blocks.

-H. Moore, Leeds, England.

Car Pulling Heavy Trailer Cooled by Additional Water Tank



Auxiliary tank increases radiator capacity of car when pulling trailer over mountain roads

Before making a trip with a house trailer behind my car, which has always had a tendency to run hot, I installed an extra water tank, which was a 3-gal grease can. Two pipes were brazed to the ends to take the hoses which were disconnected from the hot-water heater. A bleeder pet cock is necessary in the top to drain off the air so the tank will fill with water completely. The tank can be clamped to the radiator braces or installed any place under the hood where there is room. I pulled a heavy trailer over 300 miles of steep mountain roads in the hottest weather without the radiator boiling. Before the tank was installed the car would boil quickly when pulling no trailer. The water hoses can be returned to the heater in the fall when the extra cooling is not needed.

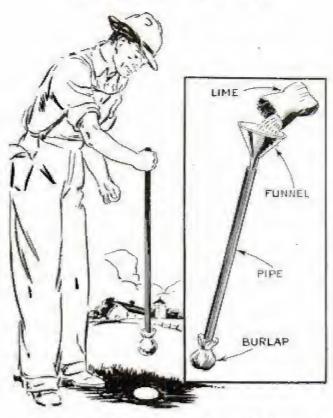
-G. L. Beck, Tacoma, Wash.

Charging Battery in Car

To recharge a car battery without removing it from the car, mount a ¼-hp. alternating current motor so the fan belt can be used to connect this motor to the car generator. A washing-machine motor generally is equipped with a pulley for a V-belt. If the motor speed is too high, obtain a smaller motor pulley.

-A. E. Torell, Everett, Wash.

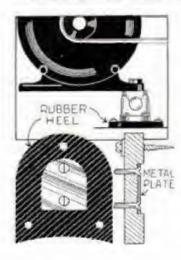
Position of Fence Posts Marked with This Lime Duster



You can save labor and time by using this lime duster instead of stakes to locate fence posts

Instead of laying out the locations of posts in a new fence by driving stakes into the ground, use this lime duster, which saves time and labor. It consists of a length of pipe with a piece of burlap tied tightly over one end to form a small bag. In use, the pipe is filled with lime, and the workman walks along and taps the ground where a post is to be set. The lime sifts through the cloth and leaves a white spot on the ground.

Rubber Heels Cushion Motor



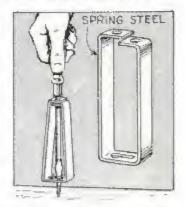
To reduce vibration of electric motors to a minimum, shock-absorbing motor mounts for floating-type rails can be made from a pair of rubber heels. Cut a metal plate to fit the recess in the top of the heel and drill

two holes through the heel and plate to line up with rail clips. Countersink the flat-head bolts in the plate and bolt the three together. Fasten the heels to the bench with three screws or bolts, using washers under the heads.

-F. W. Coates, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Screw Holder for Screwdriver

Shaped from a piece of thin spring steel, this attachment will enable you to start screws in places where it is impossible to reach with the hands. A slot with a hole at one end permits a



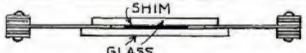
screw head to be inserted and held true for starting it straight.

-Chas. H. Willey, Penacook, N. H.

Thickness of Shim Stock Gauged Between Sheets of Glass

When a micrometer is not at hand to find the thickness of a piece of shim stock and the thickness is not too critical, an emergency method of gauging the stock is to place it between two pieces of glass, press-





Place shim stock between two pieces of glass, press tightly and insert thickness gauge between the sheets

ing the pieces tightly. The distance between them, as measured with a thickness gauge, will equal the thickness of the stock. Glass from a broken windshield is best as it is usually perfectly true. Do not use window glass as it often has a wavy surface. CLEANING THE UPHOLSTERY

in your Car

CAREFUL, periodic cleaning of the upholstery on your car will not only help to maintain the beauty of the interior, but will prolong the life of the cloth. Upholstery fabrics that are cleaned regularly will not wear out as quickly as those left untidy.

A thorough brushing with a whisk broom twice a month will

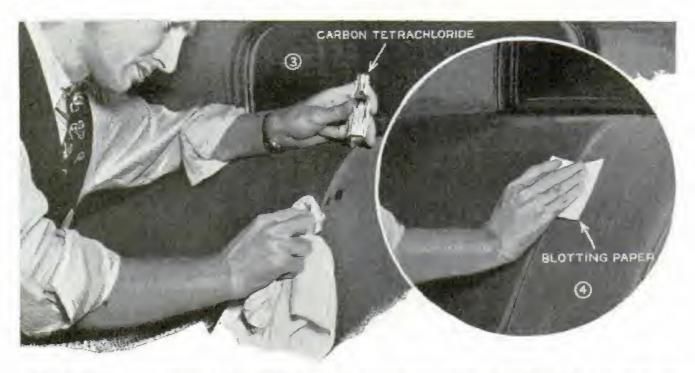
do wonders. If ordinary spots appear, go over them with a wet cloth and any regular cleaner at once. Should holes be burned in the cloth, it is best to have an experienced upholsterer make the repairs. Ordinary candy stains, except chocolate, can be removed by simply rubbing the discolored areas with a cloth soaked in very hot water. Start the cloth moving in a circular motion, working from the outside toward the center of the spot. Candy stains that result from fruit-filled chocolates should be rubbed with a cloth soaked in lukewarm, soapy water. Scrape with a dull knife while rubbing. Then rinse by rubbing the spot with a cloth soaked in cold water. Milk-chocolate stains are best removed by rubbing with a cloth soaked in lukewarm water and, after the surface is dry, sponging with a cloth dampened with chloroform.

Paint stains should be cleaned as quickly as possible after they are discovered. The older they are, the harder they will be to clean. For dry stains, use a cloth soaked with a mixture of denatured alcohol, 1 part, benzene, 1 part, acetone, 1 part, amyl acetate, 1 part. Rub the spot with a circular motion, starting 3 or 4 in. outside the actual spot and working toward the center. A dull knife should be used as much as possible. For spots that have not dried, you can probably get them out by rubbing with a cloth that has been soaked in turpentine.

⑽

A special technique is required to remove grease spots. Take a dull knife and get off as much grease as possible without harming the fabric. Then sponge with chloroform, ether, gasoline, benzene or any good solvent. Carbon tetrachloride is probably the best. It's a good idea to start well outside the stains. Spots made by ice cream will respond to the same treatment as stains made by fruit-filled chocolates. Hot water first with soap or warm soapsuds and then, after the area is dry, a sponging with carbon tetrachloride will remove the fatty matter.

There are many types of lipstick stains, but, in general, a solution of carbon tetrachloride or chloroform will remove them,

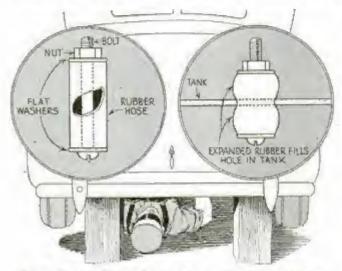


especially if you press a blotting paper firmly on the spot after applying the mixture. Repeat as often as necessary to remove stain, using a new surface of the blotter each time. Fresh mildew can be removed by rubbing vigorously with a cloth thoroughly wet with warm soapsuds, followed by rinsing with cloth wet with cold water. In old mildew you may find that spots remain after you have removed their cause, but a 10-per-cent solution of oxalic acid may eliminate them.

Warm soapsuds, followed by a rinse with cold water, usually does the job on rust. For tar, dampen slightly with chloroform and scrape with a dull knife. Follow this by rubbing with a cloth wet with benzene or carbon tetrachloride. It's not wise to use soapsuds on fruit stains. They can best be taken out by treating them with very hot water. If possible, apply boiling water on the spots and scrape as clean as possible without injuring the fabric. Then rub with a cloth soaked in hot water. Sometimes it is necessary to sponge, after drying, with a cloth dampened with carbon tetrachloride.

A clean cloth soaked in lukewarm soapsuds will do wonders on spots made by dogs, particularly if you rub the stain afterwards with a clean cloth soaked in cold water. You can then pour a weak solution of strong ammonia and water on the spot and rinse with a clean wet cloth.

Punctured Gasoline Tank on Car Repaired with Rubber Plug

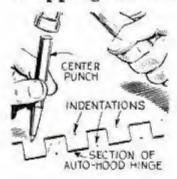


Expansive rubber plug seals puncture in gasoline tank until permanent repair can be made

If you accidentally puncture the bottom of a gasoline tank, it can be repaired temporarily as follows: First round out the hole, then slip a piece of rubber hose or tubing over a small bolt, with a washer at each end. Insert the assembly into the opening and drive on a nut, tightening it to expand the rubber tightly in the hole. The gasoline will tend to swell the rubber and make it still tighter.

¶Use a piece of copper or aluminum filed to the desired shape when scraping carbon from an aluminum piston; if a steel scraping tool is employed, there is danger of damaging the piston.

Stopping Rattles in Hood Hinge



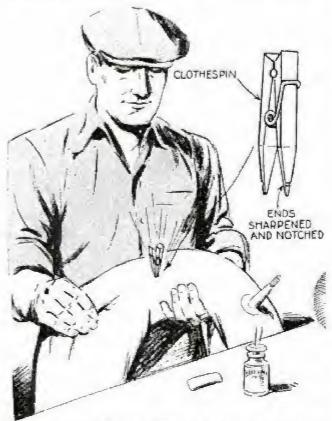
Some cars develop annoying rattles that are often caused by looseness in the piano hinge of the hood. A simple way of tightening the hinge is to make an indenta-

tion with a center punch on each section or tab directly over the rod passing through it, thus tightening the section on the rod.

-Richard A. Ehrmin, Toledo, Ohio.

Clothespin Opens Inner Tube to Release Air

To release air quickly from a punctured inner tube, one mechanic devised this simple device. It consists of a spring clothespin, the open ends of which are sharpened and notched, as shown. In use, the sharpened ends are pushed together for insertion into the puncture to the depth of the notches. When released, the spring spreads the pin to enlarge the opening so that the air escapes rapidly without further attention of the operator.



Spring-type clothespin altered to insert into puncture of inner tube to release air quickly

Parts Rack Made from Reflectors of Old Car Headlamps



Small parts such as screws and nuts can be picked at a glance in this rack

Neat and handy for the bench in a small shop or garage is this screw and bolt rack which utilizes old headlamp reflectors as the containers. An iron rod or pipe is mounted on a heavy base and the reflectors are slipped over it and separated by 4-in, sections of pipe or tubing which fit over the central rod. The resulting trays are held rigidly in place either by soldering them to the shaft or by drilling and tapping each separating tube and providing it with a set screw.

-W. C. Wilhite, Carlinville, Ill.

Protecting Shackles from Dust

When trucks work in dust and mud, it's a good idea to cover the spring shackles. After washing off the parts, lubricate them as usual, then take a piece of burlap and, after soaking it in oil, wrap it around the shackle, tying it in place with a piece of wire. This not only prevents the dust from accumulating directly on the shackles and the fittings but also prevents the dust from working into the shackles with resultant wear.

-Emil J. Novak, Omaha, Nebr.

Inner Tube Buffed on Grinder with Aid of Potato Masher

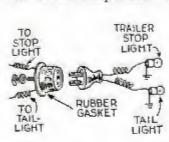


Accidental injury to the fingers, when buffing inner tube, avoided by stretching it over potato masher

To avoid any chance of injury to his fingers from a buffing wheel, when roughening the surface of an inner tube before a patch is applied, one mechanic stretches the damaged portion of the tube over the end of a wooden potato masher, and holds it in place with a rubber band.

Rear Signal Lights on Trailer Plug into Car Circuit

Operating a trailer tail lamp and stop light in conjunction with those on your car is accomplished easily when an elec-



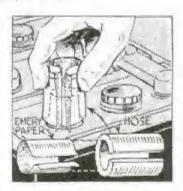
trical plug of the type shown is used as a connector, which permits the circuits to be broken quickly when the trailer is unhooked from the car. The diagram

shows how the wiring is done. A small bolt will have to be substituted for the screw in the plug, which must be insulated from the car where it is mounted. Also, the tongue and hitch of the trailer must be metal to complete the circuit from trailer to car battery, otherwise a jumper wire

will have to be connected between the trailer and car frames. The same idea can be used when the trailer is to be lighted from the car battery.

"Sandpaper Block" to Clean Battery Posts

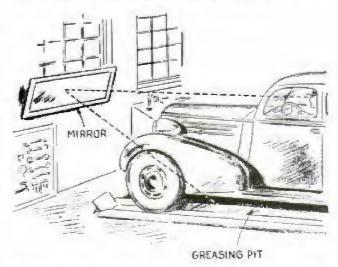
Cleaning corrosion from storagebattery posts is done in a jiffy with this sandpaper block. It consists of a short piece of garden hose, which is split along one side to take a piece of



sandpaper, inserted on the inside. In use, the hose and paper are slipped over the post and twisted from side to side.

Wall Mirror Guides Drivers onto Greasing Pit

To protect customers at a lubricating station from driving their cars into pits or against hoists, a wall mirror can be mounted as shown, so that the driver can watch his front wheels. The mirror should be of large size and it should be mounted firmly to prevent swaying or shifting. Such precaution for your patrons may serve as valuable court evidence that you use "reasonable care" in the protection of your customers and their cars, in addition to preventing accidents that might be very expensive.—C. E. Packer, Chicago.



Driver seeing image of front wheels in mirror is able to steer safely onto lubricating pit or rack

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Emergencies at Sea

(Continued from page 75)

oil and was using her emergency radio generator. She had had plenty of fuel the day before when the engineer decided to pump over the side a lot of water that had settled at the bottom of the fuel tank. Unfortunately, when the water was pumped out and the pump was shut down a valve didn't seat properly and the pump kept on unnoticed, discharging good fuel oil over the side until the tank was dry. The tanker was loaded with Diesel oil, so the two ships tied themselves together and fire hoses were coupled together to transfer some of the tanker's cargo.

Losing a propeller is not very common but when it does happen it almost always



One of bank of four huge refrigerating engines used on a modern steamship

occurs in port instead of out at sea. Just as long as a ship is steaming ahead the back pressure on a loose propeller keeps it attached firmly to the shaft. Maneuvering into a dock, the propeller direction may be reversed for backing the ship, and the propeller is pulled right off the shaft. Occasionally a ship loses one blade from a propeller. When that happens the engines are slowed down to prevent too much vibration and the ship keeps on her way. Most ships carry at least one spare propeller blade and a replacement could be made at sea, although an engineer likes to wait until he dry-docks or at least is tied up to a wharf in quiet water. Tied up to a wharf, he can tip his ship by trimming the

ballast tanks until the propeller hub is out of water. Once after a rough voyage across the Pacific the chief engineer of a tanker decided to tip his ship for an inspection. His inspiration was a lucky one for he found that the high following sea that had accompanied them most of the way across had unscrewed four of the six bolts that held the rudder to the rudder stock and that the fifth bolt was nearly ready to drop off.

Many ships carry a spare tail shaft and in an emergency an engine room staff could unship a broken tail shaft and replace it with the spare. This is really a shipyard job and few chiefs like the idea of doing it with their own men because of the grave danger of serious accidents. The solid steel shaft, a foot or more in diameter and possibly twenty feet long, could easily crush several men if it broke away while

being moved into place.

If a ship loses a rivet from her bottom the leak is usually not very serious and a soft metal plug can be driven into the hole to keep the water out. But if loss of the rivet is likely to open a seam it can be replaced at sea by dropping a weight attached to a thin line down through the hole. This weight, dropped into the ocean, is then retrieved from outside the hull by looping a rope around the hull from the bow and drawing it aft. The loop catches the line that holds the weight and it can be drawn up on deck. Then a patch bolt is substituted for the weight and the line is tossed overboard. Pulling the line back up through the rivet hole draws the patch bolt right into the hole. A nut placed on the bolt from inside the ship is tightened and the job is finished.

Boilers are watched constantly at sea for the first sign of cracks or corrosion. One of the most disagreeable jobs in a fireroom is blocking off a leaking tube in a boiler. After the fires have been turned off the temperature inside the boiler is around 200 degrees and if the repair has to be made at once a fireman bundles up in all the clothing he can get and climbs in through the door, walking on planks to keep the hot metal from buckling his shoes. He has to work fast to finish the job before he is overcome by the heat.



"I'd marry you in a minute-



...if you had a Barbasol Face"

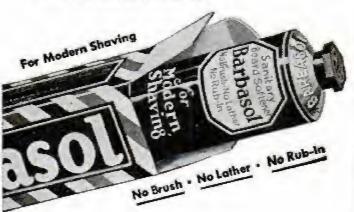
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Rope Spinning for Health

(Continued from page 29)

stunts. At this point, however, it might be well to point out that loops of this size should be kept in the same position as the smaller ones. When attempting the larger loops, many beginners try to speed up, forgetting that the spoke must turn in the hand to keep the rope from snarling.

With a little practice and patience, the neophyte can learn to jump in and out of a lateral loop. In doing this routine, Terry Bardole, youngest of the big timers, starts



Top, whip cracking goes hand in hand with rope spinning. Here an expert prepares to snip roll of paper from girl's hand. Bottom, completion of the trick. Note short piece of paper left in girl's hand

a medium-sized flat loop rotating to the left, about five or six inches off the ground. When the loop is going at average speed, the spinner steps briskly into the circle with his right foot just as the spoke passes. His weight is thrown to the right foot on which he is standing and before the spoke has a chance to come in contact with his right leg, he makes a backward step and the spoke is allowed to pass under. The routine should be tried on the left side after the above procedure has been mastered.

A variation of this stunt is to step into the loop with the right leg closely followed by the left just as the spoke passes the right leg. With a quick, rhythmical movement, the hand is turned from a downward to an upward position, thus pulling the loop around the body. The action is reversed if the spinner wants to get out of the loop without stopping it. Just as the spoke passes the right shoulder, the hand is dropped to a downward position. The roper then steps backward out of the loop with his left foot first, followed by his right.

In order to spin a loop around you, the loose end of the rope should be fed into the honda until there is just a little over two feet remaining outside it. Grasping the left side of the loop with the left hand and holding the right in the same position as before, you are in position for the spectacular stunt. The hands should be about two and one-half feet apart and the left arm should be held rigid, almost even with the waist. The right arm sweeps on an upward curve around the body toward the left. The loop is released when your hand is just above your head.

Using the arm and wrist, the spoke is revolved in a circle approximately one foot in diameter. The size of the loop can be regulated by the area in which the spoke travels and the speed of the wrist.

Spinning small loops around the outside of your body is another feature stunt. Here the sense of swing is of great importance. The vertical loops then may be tackled. They represent a separate field. In the flat loops it was centrifugal force that carried the loop outward while gravity was pulling downward on the entire noose. This is not the case in the vertical loops. Hence, a heavier honda is necessary.

From here the roper can use his own imagination. There are hundreds of variations of the simple fundamentals.

Lampblack Helps Break the Ice to Open Navigation in Yukon

Up in the Yukon, shipping men hasten the spring thaw on Lake Laberge by marking the ice with lampblack. A wide path of oil and lampblack is spread over the ice along the route the ships will follow. The sun's rays penetrate the black strip, the oil helps to keep the day's melting from freezing again at night, and day by day the sun cuts deeper. Long before a ship could ram through adjoining ice, a steamer can aim for the black strip and open a channel.



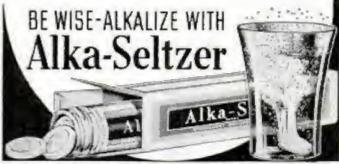
Treet Safety Razor Corporation, Newark, New Jersey

White Cars In Jean Olm



T certainly is disappointing to wake up with a headache or an upset stomach, and find there are no Alka-Seltzer Tablets in the house. This often means having to start the day feeling miserable, when, had Alka-Seltzer Tablets been available, you could just drop one in a glass of water and quickly have a sparkling glass of Alka-Seltzer that would relieve your trouble promptly.

Alka-Seltzer gives relief in IWO ways — its analgesic properties promptly relieve the pain and because it is one of the best alkalizers known, it helps correct the excess acid condition so often associated with common ailments. Sold by all druggists in 30c and 60c packages



WANT a new business profession of your own, with all the trade you can attend to? Then become in a few weeks earn big income in service fees,—not medical nor chiropody—easy terms for home training, no further capital needed, no goods to buy, no agency. Established 1894. Address Stephenson Laboratory, 1 Back Bay, Boston, Mass.

Secrets of the "Singing Crystals"

(Continued from page 93)

nearly uniform size and found ways to overcome the other difficulties. As produced by this company today, these crystals are about twenty-two inches long, three and one-half inches wide and two inches high. Each is shaped like a gambrel roof and weighs about five pounds.

Small segments are carefully sawed or cut from the large crystal and then ground. These segments become the generators and drivers, their characteristics depending on the angle at which they are cut, and the manner in which they are ground and combined with each other. When two segments or crystal plates with electrodes attached are cemented together, and a voltage is applied to the electrodes, one plate



A tray of sound-cell microphones on the production line at the Brush Development company plant

expands while the other contracts, thus causing a bending of the entire unit similar to the action of a bimetallic thermostat. Such an assembly is called a bimorph element and it can be made to exert either a bending or twisting force. If three corners of a twister element are held in a fixed position, the fourth corner exhibits greater activity than it otherwise would.

A sound cell is an assembly of two of these bimorph elements, sensitive to bending, in a little case. The elements are supported at two points and a space is left between them so the plates are easily distorted by variations in sound pressure. Electrodes extend from each element and the assembly is impregnated in wax to provide an airtight and moisture proof box. The result is a small, flat, hollow case, the two major surfaces of which generate voltage in response to acoustical pressure, the voltage generated by one side being in phase with that of the other when caused by sound, but out of phase-thus tending to cancel each other-when caused by mechanical shock or vibration. Several sound cells can be connected together. Such an assembly is a pressure-operated device, entirely self-energizing, and will respond as well at one cycle as at one thousand.

In a microphone, the crystal acts as a generator; in a receiver, it is a driver. A little device known as a heart-beat pickup accomplishes electrically what the stethoscope does acoustically. There is also available a recorder mechanism in which a crystal motor is employed to actuate a pen which makes a visual record on a moving roll of paper of heart sounds or the bending and twisting strains to which a test part, such as an airplane propeller, may be subjected. This equipment also is used in recording other low-frequency electrical alternations or mechanical vibrations.

The crystal vibration pickup is a device which, when applied to any body having vibratory motion, converts that motion into an electrical potential of similar characteristics. It is employed in locating the source of noise or vibration in reciprocating or rotating machines, in measuring the transmission of vibration through different materials, recording the vibration of airplane wings, automobile bodies or pipelines and in the production testing of bearings, crankshafts, generators, motors, gear trains, transformers and other parts. A crystal musical pickup also has been developed to amplify the tone of any musical instrument to which it is attached.

Crystal oscilloscopes in which the crystal motivates a light beam as it passes from its source to a moving film or rotating mirror are employed for recording and studying wave forms and for such purposes as recording the time required to flash a photo bulb or to produce timing waves on film. There are crystal headphones for the use of the hard of hearing in theaters, tiny lapel "mikes" for the use of public speakers, combination crystal mikes and receiv-

(Continued to page 120A)



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(Continued from page 119A)



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ers for use in intercommunicating systems and even a "pillow speaker" which enables a hospital patient to enjoy a radio program although the sound is inaudible to others in the same ward.

Some of the applications of crystal equipment are so unusual as to seem fantastic. The owner of a fox farm has crystal microphones in the nest houses. Instead of patrolling the grounds at night to watch for disturbances, the watchman now listens from a central point. In somewhat similar fashion, Hawaiians listen for the presence of insects in growing crops. A crystal contact microphone, crystal receivers and amplifying equipment enable listeners to detect the slightest sounds—even the faint sounds of insects in a distant field.

Crystal mikes are also finding a wide application in crime-detection work because they are small and inconspicuous and pick up even the faintest whisper. Contact microphones placed against a wall or door will pick up conversation in the next room, it has been found. Hence, it is not even necessary to conceal the equipment in the room of those under surveillance.

So sensitive are the crystal vibration pickups that one was developed for use in regulating tiny wrist watches whose ticks are hardly audible. The moving parts are very small and light in weight and the vibration produced is almost infinitesimal but it is enough to cause the crystal element to generate electricity.

Each year new tasks are being found for these man-made crystals with the peculiar ability to change pressure into electrical energy. No one can predict all the tasks the "singing" crystals eventually will perform but those familiar with their properties already foresee the day when pressure electricity will be applied to an instrument of communication which most of us use several times daily—the telephone.

■Our Bureau of Information keeps on file the names and addresses of makers of, and dealers in, all devices described in the pages of Popular Mechanics Magazine. We are glad to furnish this information to our readers upon request, accompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelope.



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"Beating Action" with a Camera (Continued from page 63)

facial expression, pose that is actually balanced but looks unbalanced, such as a body leaning far forward, suggest movement often more effectively than if the subject were really in rapid motion. In such simulated action pictures, there is opportunity for dramatic creative work that should appeal to the serious camera user.

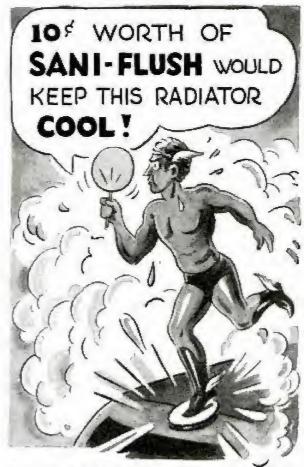
Where one must use a slow camera or slow shutter speed to "stop" rapidly moving objects, and cannot choose a head-on or close-angle viewpoint, he can often make effective use of the "swing" or "panoram" technique, in which the camera is moved to follow the moving object.

This method is one developed by press photographers who must bring back pictures regardless of weather and light conditions. The picture subject is centered in the camera view finder, and kept there by moving the camera as the subject—racing car, motorboat, or athlete—passes. With camera and subject movement thus "synchronized" the subject is sharp, but the background is drawn out into a long blur that fairly whizzes across the picture and heightens the effect of action.

With ordinary cameras this swing method can be used effectively only if the camera has an eye-level view finder. The movement must be carried through smoothly, and the shutter snapped at the proper point without a jerk.

In many of your action pictures, particularly of athletes and horse races, you may find that there are blurred details—a hand that moved too rapidly, a foot too swiftly swung. These will be found even at high shutter speeds, and if not too fuzzy, should be welcomed. A picture in which every detail is hairline sharp is likely to look "dead" or unreal. The small blurred details give life; they highlight the action. This rule is true even of inanimate things. If you snap rippling water at too high a shutter speed, it looks still and brassy. Absolute freezing of motion is of value only in scientific work.

Do not overlook the advantage of the low viewpoint. Those dramatic football pictures with figures looming up against the sky, are made with the camera almost on the ground. The sky provides a simple, effective background. Make full use of it, and watch your pictures gain drama,



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RAZORS AND BLADES

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Modern Alchemists

(Continued from page 69)

torn down by work and play. Amino acids also help to regulate the bodily functions. They influence your size, your rate of growth, the amount of fat that you carry, the color of your eyes and hair, and even your personality. It has been estimated that \(\frac{1}{1000} \) of a gram of an amino acid known as thyroxin, concentrated in the thyroid gland, stands between a happy, normal existence and death or imbecility.

Knowledge of these strange substances has already been put to commercial use. The salt of one kind of amino acid known



Dr. Dunn with photomicrograph, with which amino acid crystals are photographed

as glutamic acid is manufactured and sold as a condiment. It has a surprisingly natural meaty taste.

Another amino acid known as cystine is found most abundantly in human hair. Some scientists believe that experiments with this amino acid may lead to a solution of the problem of baldness. One called glycine has been found valuable in the treatment of muscular disorders. Histidine is being used in the treatment of stubborn gastric ulcers. Scientists at the University of California are using amino acids as an approach to the problem of cancer.

Making Jobs for the Big Hook

(Continued from page 53)

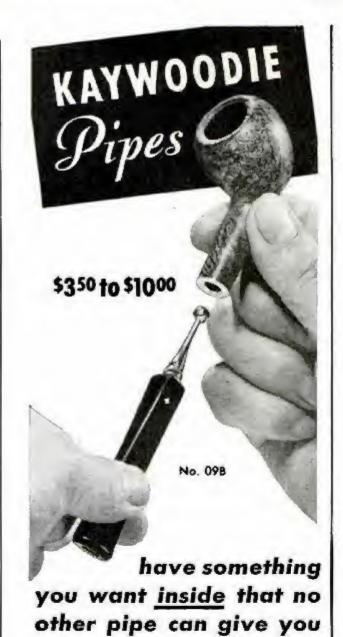
or hurls it high into the air. Railroad men say this is because there is no coupler projecting in front and no pilot beam to catch and hold the wreckage. It is possible that steam trains of the future will be equipped with some form of smooth covered pilot, resembling a snowplow in shape. Such an arrangement, railroad officials say, might save the railroads costly wrecks and loss of life among passengers and engine crews.

The lot of the engineer and fireman when a motorist comes roaring down a cross roads is not a happy one. The motorist can always stop, but the train can not, so the engine crew sits helpless.

"Sitting in the cab watching one of those careless motorists gives you the chills," says Engineer Clewer. "You wonder what he is going to do-and you never know. You can't do anything yourself. You pull the whistle cord as you pass the regular whistle post, and, in open country, you are sure he sees and hears you. But he speeds up to make the crossing, and then he slows down and acts like he is going to stop. And then, at the last minute, he steps on the gas and races across in front of you. By that time you are so close you can't see past the boiler and running board to watch his progress the last few feet. You sit and wait for the 'clunk' of metal if your pilot hits him. If you don't hear the 'clunk' you look out the other window in time to see him highballing down the highway. Then you settle back and wait for the next crossing."

In 1936, 1,786 motorists were killed at grade crossings, amounting to thirty-four and five tenths per cent of all fatalities in railroad operations for the year, according to the Western Railways Committee on Public Information. The Department of Commerce reports 1305 killed during the first nine months of 1937, or at the rate of 1,740 per year. Owing to an increase in the number and seriousness of accidents during the last quarter of 1937, however, the National Safety Council estimates the total was considerably larger. The final quarter usually is the worst each year.

If you don't want to make a job for the big hook, it behooves you to slow down, look and listen at every railroad crossing.



See that little steeple with the sphere on top of it? It does a whale of a lot for smoking enjoyment. How? This way. First, the smoke, on its way from the bowl to your mouth, passes through the cross-holes in the ball. Particles of tobacco, however, trying to sneak through, are trapped right there, can't get by! Also, tobacco tar, being heavier than the smoke, condenses and deposits on the steeple walls. Result: no bitter taste, and a sweet, dry smoke, actually cooler than mouth temperature! Give yourself a break: get a Kaywoodie. Kaywoodie Company, New York and London.

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Fire Under Your Hood

(Continued from page 23)

A whole flock of "shouldn'ts" began annoying their noses at the engineers. The Diesel shouldn't be any bigger, or less flexible or much heavier than the corresponding gasoline engine. It shouldn't be wholly dependent upon any one type of fuel or lubrication.

The work began by shifting from the four-cycle to the two-cycle. The latter fires every time the piston comes up. This gives approximately the same power with only half as much engine material, which in turn allows big reduction in weight. Twenty-two of the nation's great railroads now use Diesel locomotives.

This leads to the question: "When are they going to put Diesel engines in automobiles?"

The only answer is "When they get them good enough." For big commercialized vehicles—trucks, buses and tractors—the day of Diesel is here, and that is a big field.

It appears that the Diesel always is going to cost more than the ordinary gasoline engine because the injectors are so
difficult to make. The dimension variable
of the pumps, because of the extremely
high pressures at which they operate, can't
be more than one ten-thousandth of an
inch. That's about the thickness of a human hair that has been sliced into 120
equal pieces!

In developing the modern Diesel, engineers have been forced to develop equipment which can measure accurately to one ten-millionth of an inch. Diesel power raises a new peak in the demand for manufacturing accuracy.

From an engineering standpoint the Diesel development seems to be opening a new highway into the land of accuracy. This is evident in the new General Motors Diesel plant at Detroit, where a laboratory has been adapted to a central testing setup, serving all the Diesel engine divisions. In building the plant, architects created a set-up which subdues noise and vibration so much that you can stand outside the building and not hear the engines running inside. Inside, the quiet enables an engineer observing a particular engine to be free from the human error possibility which comes of hearing and feeling the operation of engines near by.

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Spectacular Fireworks

(Continued from Coloroto Section)

moving sets were common. The Florentines erected figures of heroic size, outlining them with fireworks. The figures were fashioned of plaster, covering a wooden form that was later removed. Each stood by itself on a high platform visible at a great distance, the stage mounted on wheels so it could be moved from place to place by pulleys and ropes. The scenes were usually garnished balls of fire and streams of flame gushing forth from pipes.

Yet despite the old age and respectability of the art of fireworks, it is known that the early displays were often hit or miss, marked by nearly as many failures as successes. Today's fireworks, on the other hand, have achieved a degree of timing, calibration, color, stability and magnificence in keeping with the pace of modern science.

The motion-picture industry uses fireworks to gain startling effects and to create light for shooting night scenes. Flares that emit intense white light are ignited for taking out-of-doors shots after dark when other light is not available. The common movie flare develops from 40,000 to 50,000 candlepower. The time element can be indefinitely extended by lighting the flares in sequence.

Fog scenes are produced by deftly placed smoke pots, their heavy smoke being drifted before the lens by wind machines. A house in a populous neighborhood may be isolated, as if on a desert, by the simple expedient of placing pots back of the house and in front of the unwanted background. Such smoke registers on film as blue sky. Pots are standardized in several sizes and colors, the largest emitting smoke for more than two minutes. White, gray, black and yellow are the colors most in demand for movie making. As many as 300 dozen smoke pots have been used in filming a single screen sequence.

Movie photographers have found that colored fire registers brilliantly on professional emulsions, and at this time technicians and fireworks experts are putting their heads together in an effort to devise new and yet more thrilling and beautiful effects. Many believe the next great forward step in the development of fireworks will come from the imprint of the motion-picture industry upon this ancient art.

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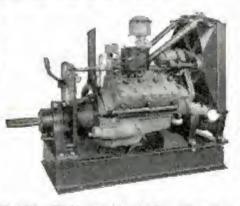
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Thrill Hunters of the Air Lanes

(Continued from page 43)

Spelling bees for children and grownups have become standard radio fare.

Major Bowes first saw the vast possibilities in audience-participation shows. He has presented more than 10,000 untested entertainers over the air, ranging from five to 110 years old. Not all the thrills of the amateur series have been supplied by the aspiring musicians, he admits. One night just before the veteran showman was ready to go on the air, he heard that a youngster was dying of an infection in a New York hospital. A transfusion was needed to save the boy's life. As soon as Major Bowes was on the air, he made an appeal for the type of blood needed and within three hours 600 persons thronged the hospital corridors, eager to be of assistance. Tests were made rapidly, the right type of donor was found and the boy's life was saved.

Extraordinary hobbies of ordinary persons have been found particularly appetizing by audiences. From all parts of the country people have come to tell of the thrills connected with their particular diversion. A Panama City, Fla., man related over the air how he once became annoyed at a shark that was tearing his fishing nets to shreds and decided to do something about it. Slipping a knife between his teeth, he dived into the water and killed the shark. Since then he has been fighting sharks for fun and profit. Another bizarre hobbyist was uncovered in Newton, Pa., a man who trains roosters. His proteges crowed into the microphone on command and then completed their turn with such amazing bits as playing dead and roller skating across the stage. An Ohio professor contributed a thrill to radio when he explained his hobby of mastering musical instruments made of bones, stones, and fossilized ribs. He demonstrated a mopophone from his mother's kitchen; a set of musical stones, which he calls the stonario, collected from southeast Nebraska. Other items in his collection include a tuned pokeweed flute, gathered from the Strawberry canyon on the campus of the University of California: a set of Pan's pipes from the drumstick bones of turkeys, and a rhinotone, consisting of fossilized ribs from a prehistoric animal which lived from fifty to 100 million years ago. A man with

the largest collection of World War posters in existence and another with a \$50,000 collection of roots that resemble humans and animals, shared program honors with a map builder who gives them an unusual fillip by covering them with dirt samples sent from every part of the globe.

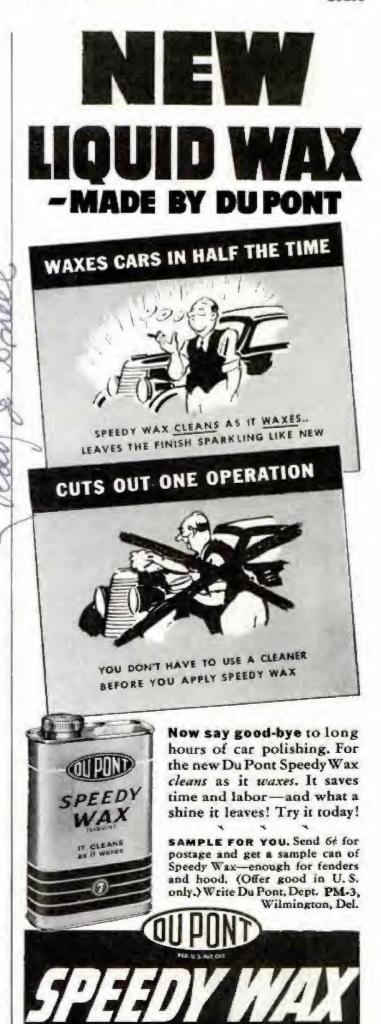
How unusual does a hobby have to be before it is considered program material? That question may be answered by a glance at the following hobbyists, which have been featured: a New Yorker who saves pieces from wedding cakes, some of which are more than fifty years old; the home workshop worker who pinch-hits for Santa Claus by repairing broken toys and distributing them among poor children; harp, hairpin, and corset collectors: the owner of the most famous collection of telegrams in existence; a relic hunter whose exhibit is made up of items salvaged from famous sea disasters; a feminine deep-sea diver, and a collection of newspaper misprints and old-time clown songs.

Radio has been responsible for bringing to light a handwriting expert who finds recreation in studying scribbles and explaining their subconscious meanings. A comic, yet profitable hobby of buying mislaid trunks at auctions was outlined over the air by a well-known writer. His hobby of attending trunk auctions and the purchase of mislaid or abandoned baggage has been the mainspring for some sixty-two books and 500 short stories. The contents of the trunks often have opened up possible fiction avenues beyond the imagination of the average writer.

The radio audience has been converted into one big laboratory to determine whether telepathy exists as an extra sensory power. The tests consist of the selection of various objects, designs, and colors quickly identifiable by the mind by a mechanical device, the action of which is unpredictable. Ten selected telepathic senders then concentrate on the machine's selection and attempt to project the thought to the listening audience.

It was the "Vox Pop" program that focused attention on the wonder man whom writers have joked about because they believed he was non-existent—the one-armed paper hanger. When the radio hunt was started, not one, but twenty-three turned up. And most of them had had the hives.

(Concluded next month)









Dept. 7A.

PARAMOUNT PRODUCTS CO.

48 West 48th Street, New York, N. Y.

Variety in Your Magic

(Continued from page 85)

When reaching into space for a cigarette, the hand is closed and the thumb brought over the base of the fake, thus giving the appearance of catching a cigarette. It is placed in the hat and before the hand is brought into the open the fingers are spread apart. The fake cannot be seen because it is on the back of the second finger. This procedure can be repeated as many times as you wish. If you are going to give out cigarettes, hold them in your left hand as you show the hat to be empty. Upon completing this, drop the cigarettes in the



One step in cigarette trick. Left hand is turned over, leaving cigarette in right hand

hat and proceed with the trick, making certain the hat is held above the eve level of the audience.

Another method of making a cigarette vanish is to hold it between the thumb and second finger of the left hand. The right hand covers the cigarette as if it were taking it but in reality it drops into the palm of the left. The right hand is then closed as if it is holding the cigarette and with a flourishing gesture it is opened—empty. The left hand can then pull the cigarette out from under your coat.

The "spooky knots" is the expressive term given a clever rope trick. Coil an ordinary rope around your hand several times and place it in an ordinary paper sack that has a small hole cut in the bottom. The loose end of the rope is allowed to hang through this hole. After a few mystic words, you pull the rest of the rope through the hole and several knots are seen tied in it.

In starting, coil the rope around your hand and then, on the pretext of starting over, repeat the process, this time tossing it into half hitches around the fingers of the left hand. The loose end of the rope is then placed through the hole in the bottom of the sack. As the rope is drawn through the hole, the half hitches are tightened.

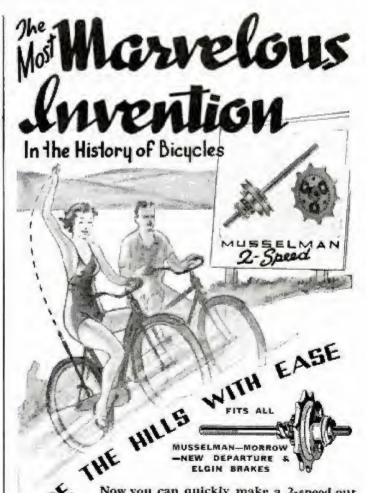
Two simple coin tricks can be used to conclude your performance. Ask your audience if anyone can hang a coin on the door, then show them how. The piece must be prepared in advance. A small cut is made on the edge of the coin so as to project from the coin's surface. By pushing the coin firmly against wood it will adhere. This cut or burr is so small it will not be detected easily.

For the concluding trick, cut a hole in a piece of paper slightly smaller than the coin to be used and explain you can make a coin pass through this opening without increasing its size. Fold the paper in half and hold it upright so the hole becomes a semicircle. Then place the coin between the halves of the paper as far as it will go. By bending each side of the paper as illustrated, the hole will spread and become wide enough for the coin to pass through. At the conclusion of the stunt, you can flatten the paper out to its original size to show it has not been torn.

Glass Grinding Machine So Big It Matches Curve of Earth

Tremendous grinding machines built on such a scale that the curvature of the earth was taken into account in their construction are used to grind and polish safety glass for a leading automobile manufacturer. Engineers computed the earth's curvature each way from the center of the 600-foot bed of the machine at one-fortieth of an inch, even allowing for the effect of light refraction on their readings in making the measurement. The precision was required for maximum uniformity in thickness of the glass.

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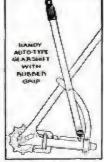


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Cathode-Ray Tube

(Continued from page 100)

use the oscillograph in connection with a good test oscillator having a suitable sweep circuit. Sketch Fig. 1 shows a model-150 RCA test oscillator, or signal generator, of this description and all shielded connections to a model-151 cathode-ray oscillograph necessary for complete visual set testing. These units are both easily portable and weigh approximately 15 pounds each; all controls are on the front panels. The tubes employed in the oscillograph and the arrangement of the various controls will be noted in the rear view photo,

Fundamentally, a cathode-ray tube consists of (1) an electron-beam source, (2) provision for deflecting the beam, (3) provision for focusing the beam on a screen,



and (4) a fluorescent screen for visibly indicating the position of the beam. In the type-913 tube the electron source is an indirectly heated cathode; the cathode, control grid, and focusing electrodes constitute an electron gun, used to project a beam of electrons. This beam is deflected by two sets of plates placed at right angles to each other. Focusing is accomplished by adjusting the ratio between the voltages on the two groups of plates. In practice, the anode group No. 2 voltage is generally held constant and the anode No. 1 voltage is varied since it is the smaller potential to control. A screen forms one end of the tube. It is one inch in diameter. and the inside is coated with material which emits light when struck by the electron beam. The control grid provides a means for controlling the quantity of electrons admitted into beam stream, thus permitting control of spot intensity, usually referred to as "brilliancy."

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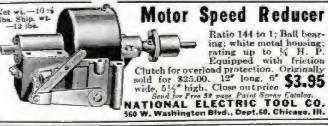
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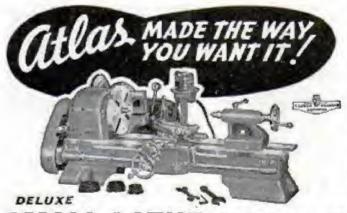
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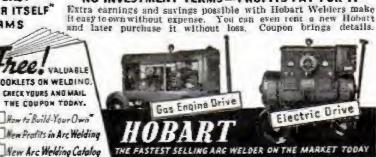
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Tune with Comfort

(Continued from page 99)

of the tone chamber is cut to rest on the lower rabbet of the frame between two narrow strips glued and blocked as shown in Fig. 5. Locating the dial opening in the figured panel is done most accurately after sliding the chassis in place on the grooved slides. These slides are stopped at one end and screwed in place to bring the condenser shaft of the set in the center of the panel. A pane of single-strength plate glass covers the dial and is drilled for standard shaft extensions to bring the control knobs above the glass, thus form-







ing a practically unobstructed, flat top. Strips of masking tape are cut 1/s in. wide and pressed firmly to the underside of the glass to form the suggested pattern shown in the

motif. This masking tape permits the glass to be painted black and later striped with gold paint by carefully removing the tape when dry. A list of the original materials used can be obtained from Popular Mechanics radio department without charge. The blueprint number is R-255. Soft composition board is used to line the chamber and also for a baffle board for the speaker. A hole is cut in the board for the speaker and baffle is covered with bronze metallic cloth before fitting in position.

Antenna, ground and power leads from the receiver chassis may be brought out through the ventilating slots in the back of the cabinet, or, if the cabinet is mounted on fairly large rubber feet the leads can be run out under the bottom. Flat rubbercovered cable containing these leads is available for running under rugs if desired.





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(Continued from page 37)

South Seas as well as Santa Barbara and Santa Catalina Island, When they learn how to use sextants, protractors, parallel rulers, dividers, and have a thorough grounding in navigation, they get diplomas and become recognized masters of vessels up to eighty feet in length.

The sailing enthusiast who has grown weary of cruising generally takes a whirl at racing and furthers his education by studying under the masters of speed that frequent the lakes of Wisconsin and Minnesota. On the inland lakes of these two states may be found some of the most highly developed racing boats in the world. They are a revelation to keel-minded yachtsmen who have little acquaintance with the capabilities of the scows. Of light displacement, drawing but a few inches of water, these boats carry up 500 measured feet of sail and with only the crew for ballast. Under certain conditions they climb out of the water and plane for short stretches with speeds up to thirty-five miles an hour being reported. When they are scudding along at twenty and twentyfive miles an hour, a speedboat is needed to keep up with them.

Unlike most sports, sailing is rich in its rewards to the beginner. Another point in its favor is that it provides a cheap, fascinating escape from business cares and daily problems. The initial cost of a new boat is not out of reason and the upkeep is small. In the case of a home workshop worker with the proper tools and two weeks' time at his disposal, a twelve-foot cathoat with a five-foot beam can be built for around fifty dollars. Or the sailor with an ear to the ground can always pick up a "buy" in a used boat.

Mooring and club fees are the principal other items of expense. In yacht clubs where the accent is on sailing these are within reach of the average boat owner. Some eliminate these costs entirely by loading their boats onto skeleton trailers after the day's sailing is over.

Boat yards all over the country are in the midst of a boom exceeding even that of the lush years. There is a lively demand for used boats, and home workshop workers are planning to launch a flotilla that will dwarf any of recent years.

Made-to-Order Plants

(Continued from page 3)

to have very little resistance to the spotted wilt disease. It was decided to cross the Marglobe with the Red Current, a variety that resists disease, but which weighs only half a gram and is about the size of a grape. The problem was to extract from the Red Currant its disease resistance alone and implant this in the Marglobe.

The program was carried through five generations by ordinary selection and self-fertilization, but at the end of the work the fruit averaged eighty grams in weight, considerably under the 150-gram weight of the Marglobe. The plant breeders dropped the strain and started in all over again, this time using the backcross method. The first generation after the original cross was backcrossed with Marglobe. Fruit of the third backcross averaged 126 grams in weight, a vast improvement in comparison with the fifth generation in self-fertilization. This year the breeders expect that they will have tomatoes that weigh 150 grams each or more and that will be identical with the original Marglobe except that they will have the disease resistance of the other parent.

Perfecting and fixing a new strain requires from three to fifteen years, depending upon the particular type of plant and the number of generations that can be raised per year.

Vanquishing plant diseases is one of the most important fields of modern plant breeding and each year disease-resistant varieties that have been "vaccinated" against various afflictions come on the market.

In the past, one crop of watermelons seemed to ruin a field forever as far as watermelons were concerned. The land . became "wilt sick" and the melon vines would wilt before producing fruit. Today the plant breeders have perfected wiltresistant varieties that flourish in infested land, enabling farmers to grow melons in the same fields year after year.

Nematodes, a plant-stunting disease that attacks many crops, is headed toward extinction because the plant scientists have found that resistance to the condition can usually be created. Soy beans and lima, beans have already been improved against-

(Continued to page 140A)



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it and similar development is going forward in tomatoes, cantaloupes, peppers, and garlic. The mildew disease that strikes onions is also being attacked. Twenty-two varieties of onions have been tested for their resistant qualities and the best of these are being backcrossed with varieties that excel in other good qualities.

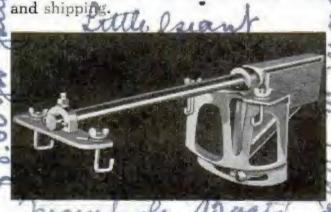
A number of years ago the flourishing sugar-beet industry came to an abrupt end on the west coast because of the spread of "curly top," a disease that swept through the fields almost like an epidemic. Sugarbeet growers gave up but the fight was carried on by plant breeders who hoped to produce strains that were vaccinated against the disease. They succeeded a short time ago and now sugar beets are coming back in that area again.

Plant breeders have imparted wilt resistance to flax, have perfected odorless cabbage, have removed the objectionable odor from marigolds, and have altered the shapes of many vegetables. Smaller Hubbard squashes are grown today simply because they are more convenient for a small family than the large squashes.

All down the line, the plant scientists are improving vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Their work ranges from producing "streamline" potatoes to developing hardy lemon trees that will flourish under temperate conditions. Streamlining potatoes, already partly accomplished, is intended to do away with deep eyes so as to reduce waste and permit greater peeling speed.

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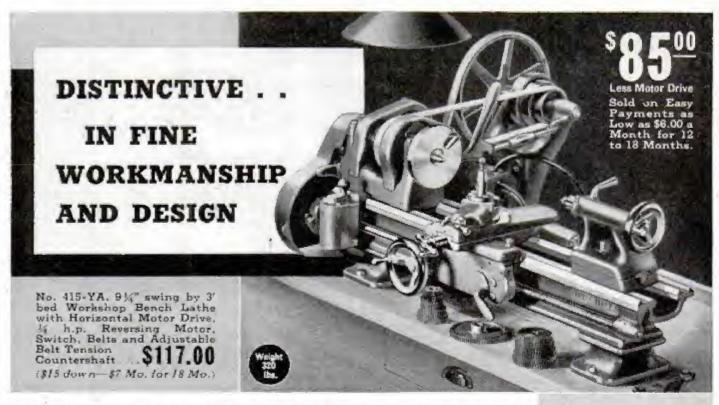




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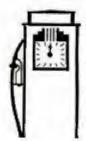
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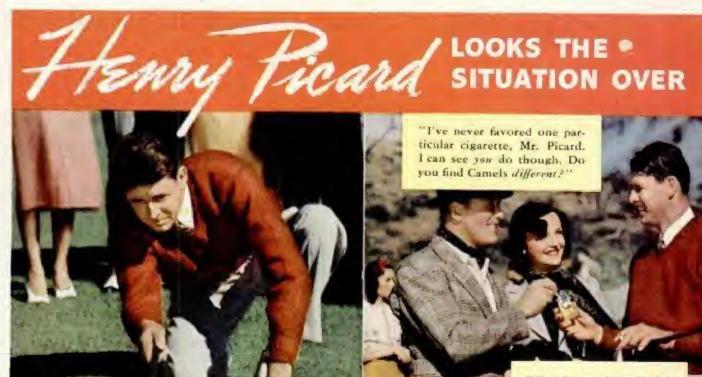


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